

ULTIMATE SPIDER-MAN[®]

ISSUE

18

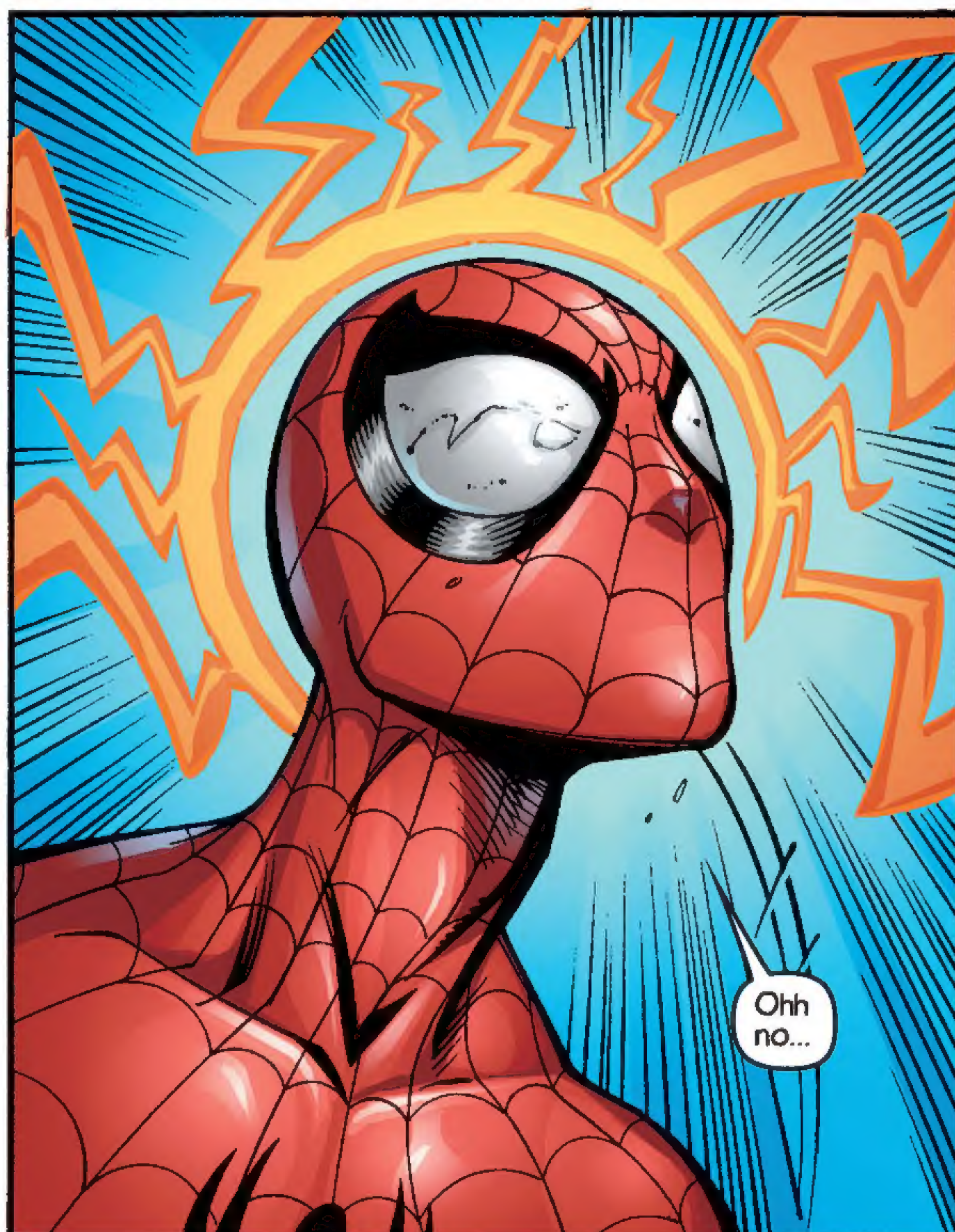
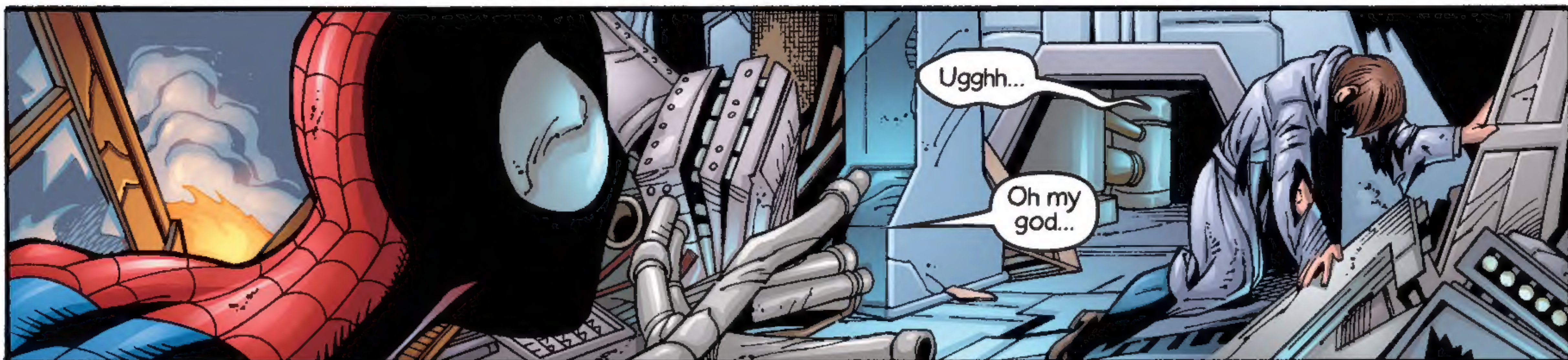
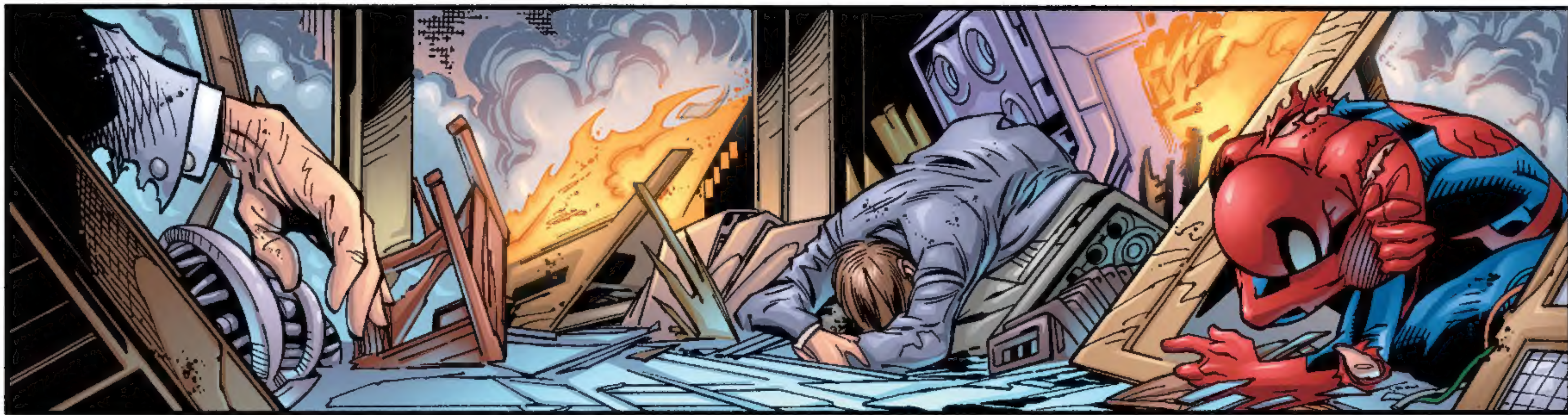
THE CYCLE

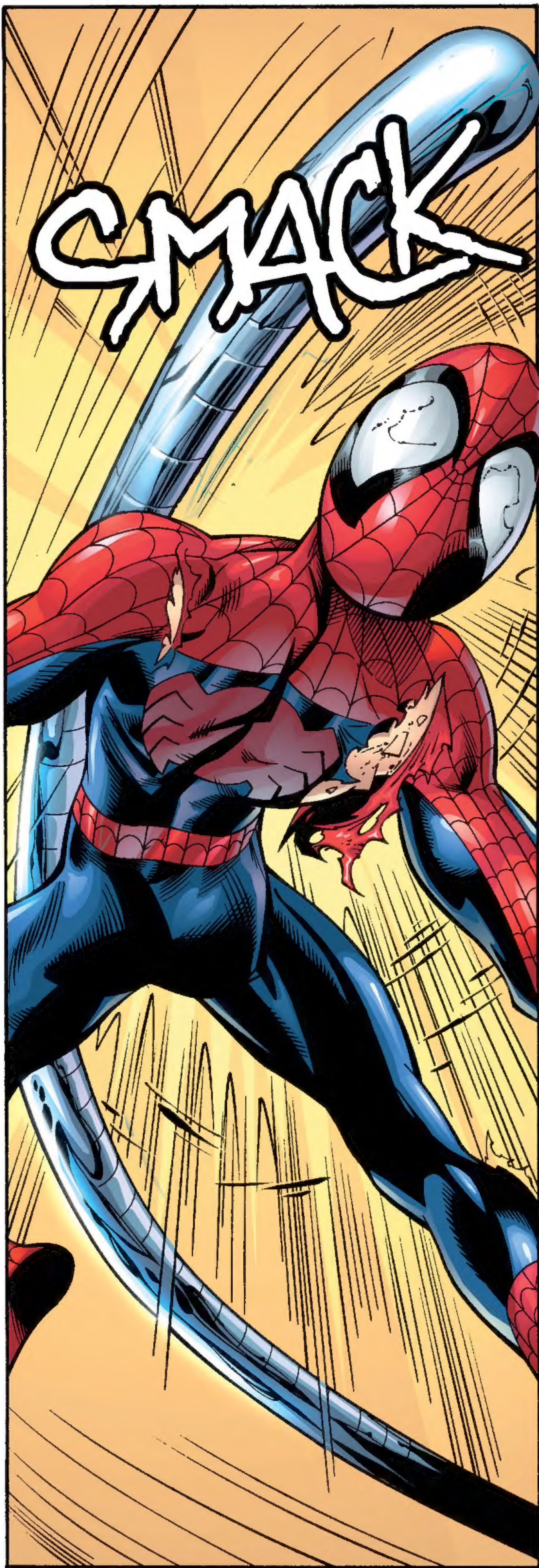


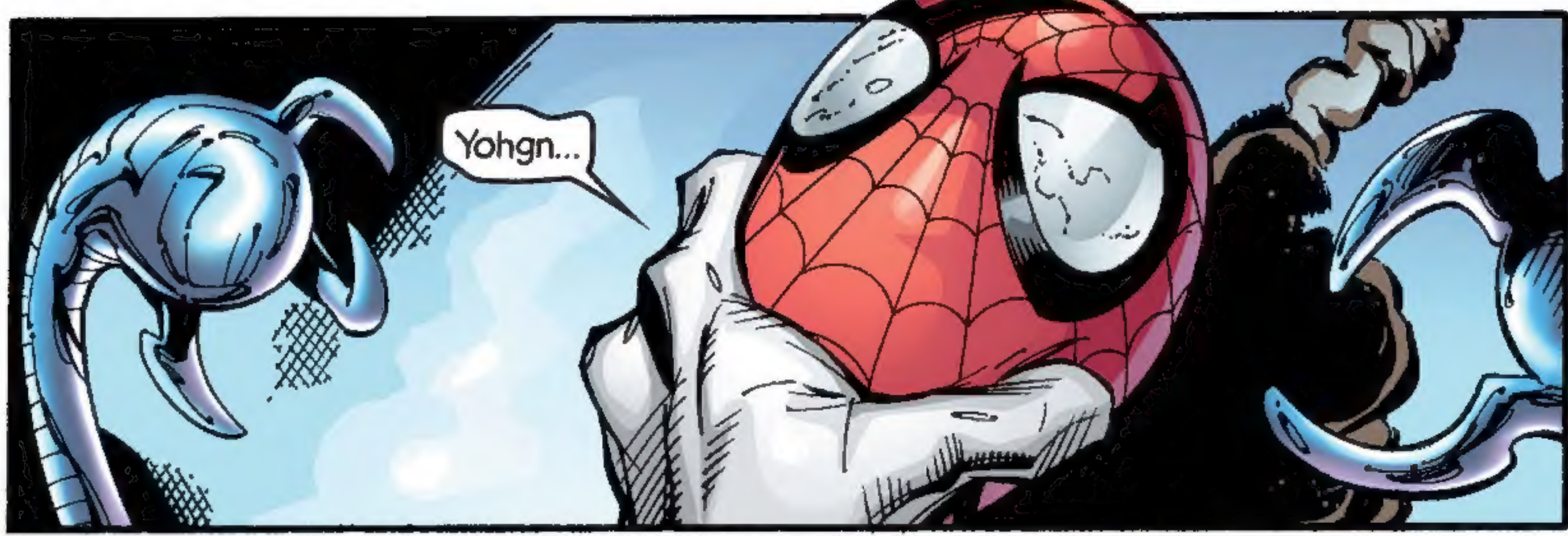
BENDIS
BAGLEY
THIBERT

MARVEL

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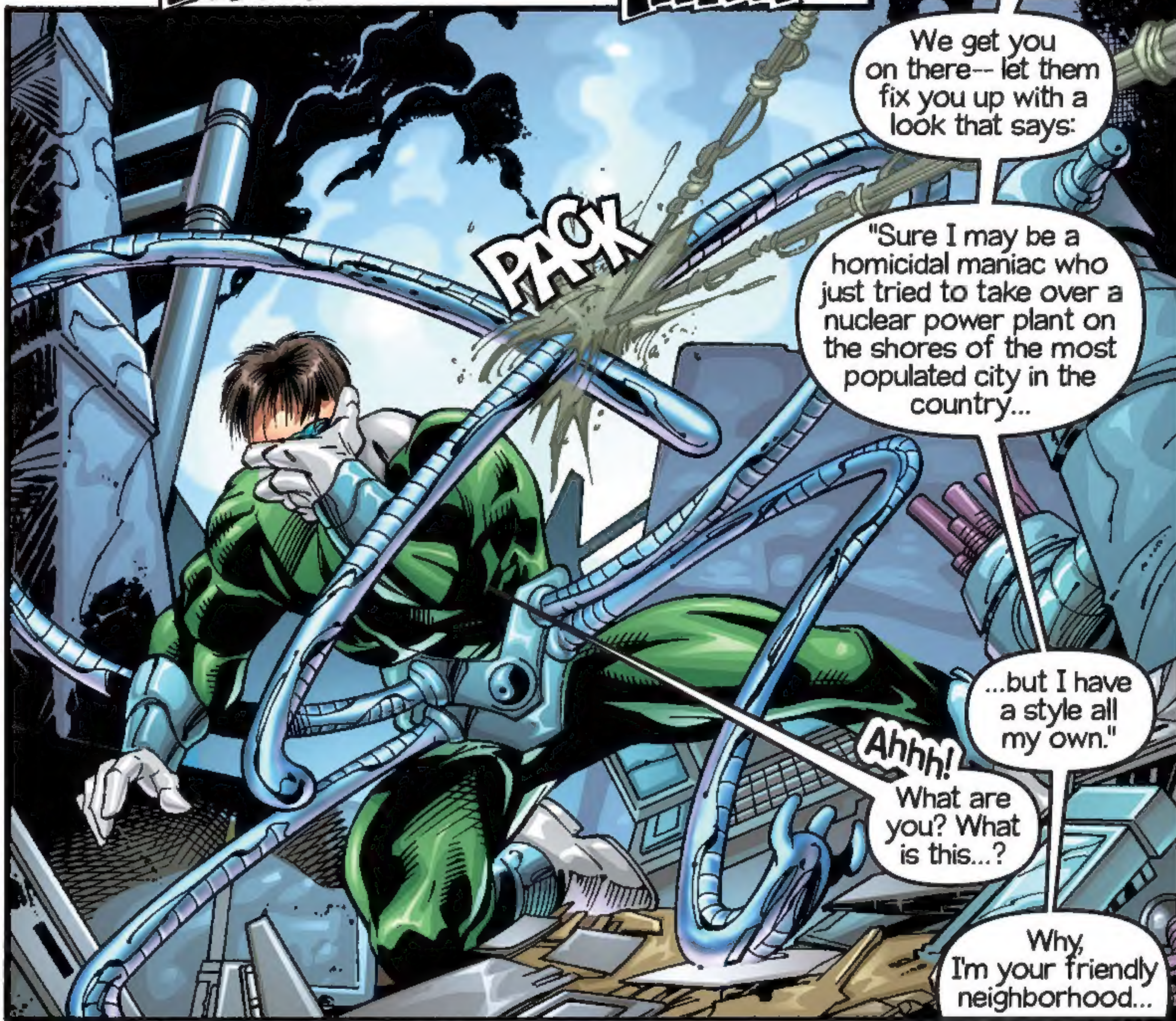








Hate to break it to you--
--but your eyes are the least of your problems.



First of all: green jump-suit?

I got two words for you: E's! Fashion Emergency.

We get you on there-- let them fix you up with a look that says:

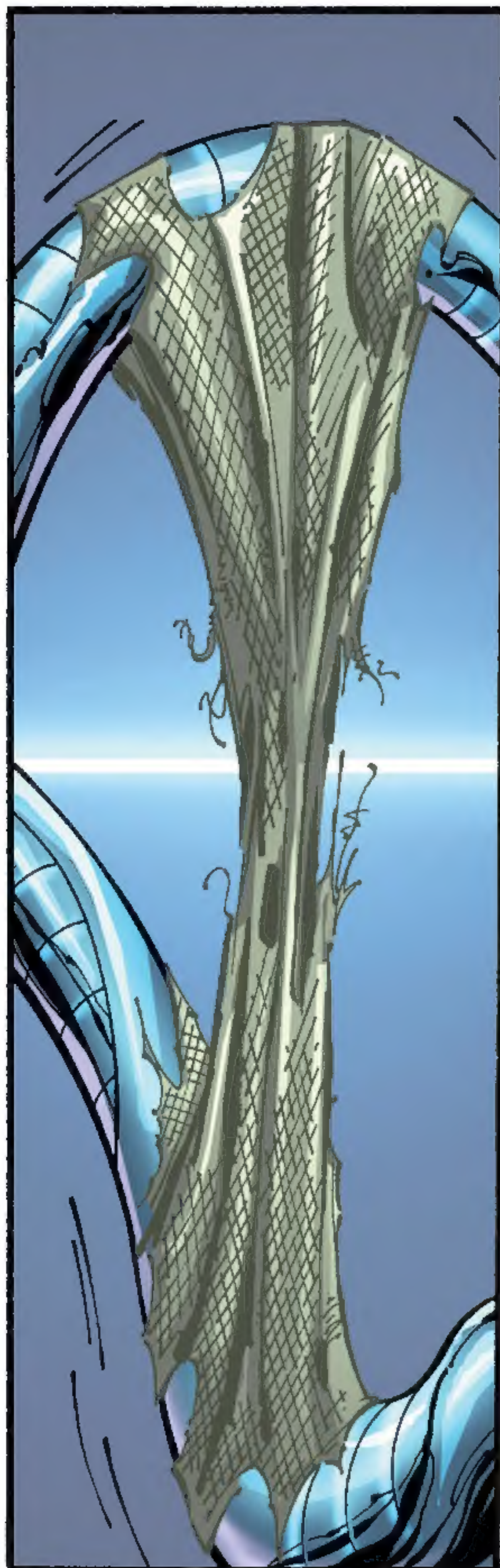
"Sure I may be a homicidal maniac who just tried to take over a nuclear power plant on the shores of the most populated city in the country..."

...but I have a style all my own."

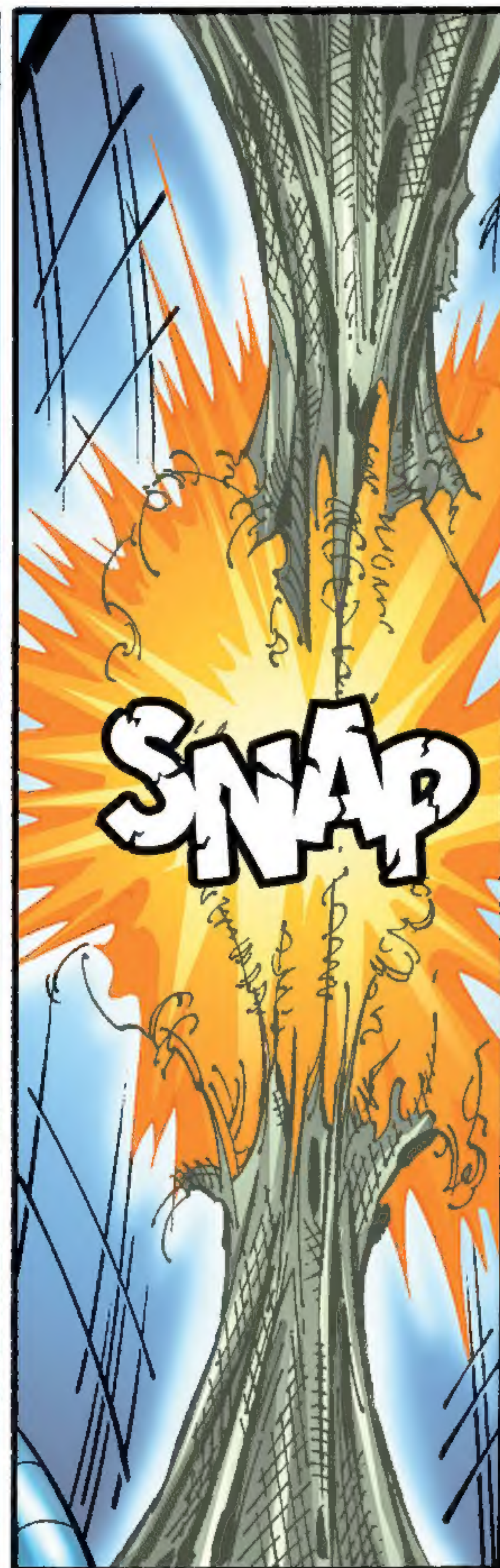
Ahhh!

What are you? What is this...?

Why, I'm your friendly neighborhood...



...Spider--

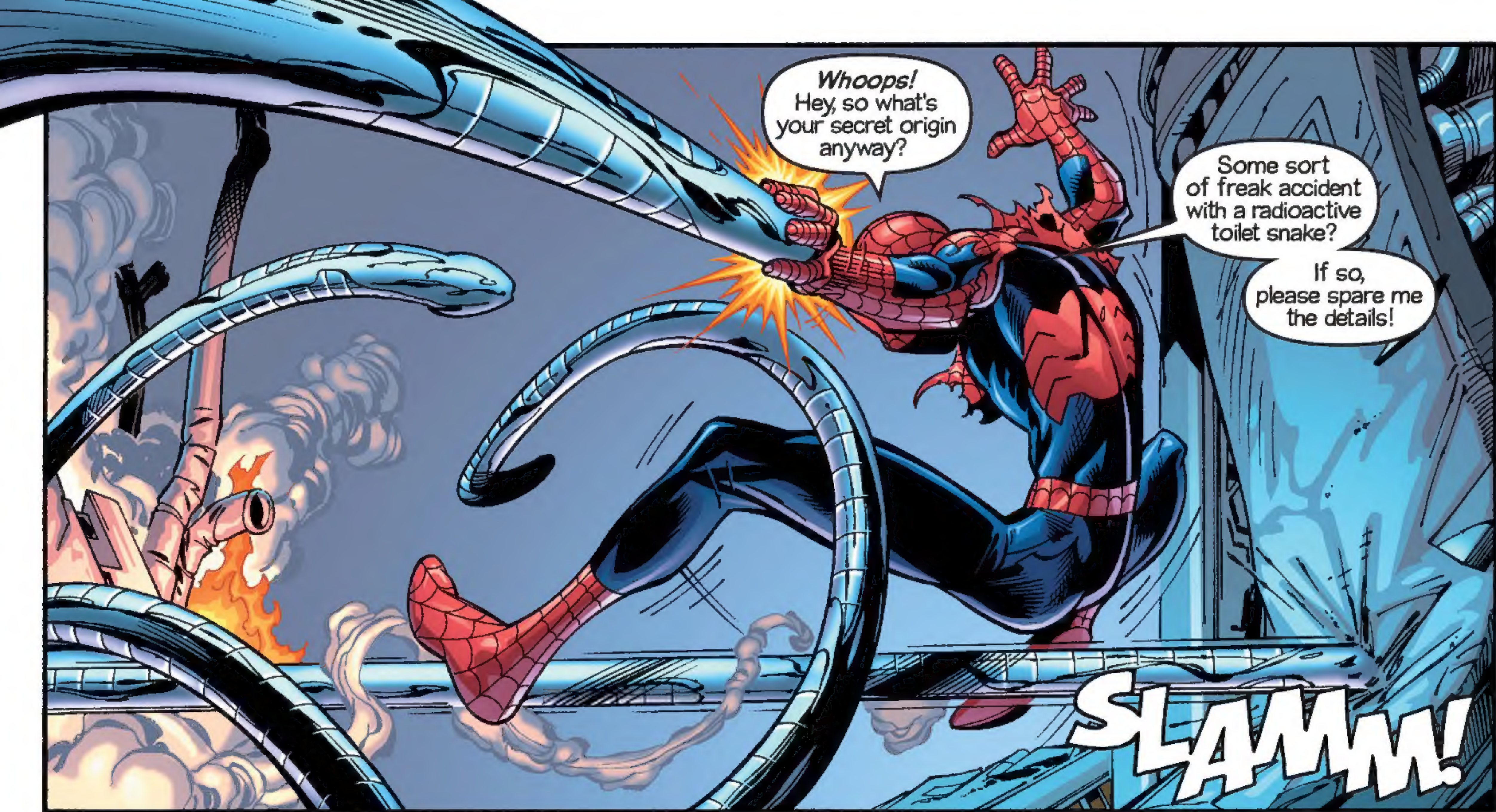


Alrighty, then.

He broke my webbing.

Great. I didn't know it could break.

Maybe I didn't mix the batch the way it's supposed to--



Whoops!
Hey, so what's
your secret origin
anyway?

Some sort
of freak accident
with a radioactive
toilet snake?

If so,
please spare me
the details!

SLAMM!



Aren't you
worried about--
gyunk!

Please
be quiet.

SPOK



Guygh!

SPOK



What a
curious, curious
sight you are.

I
would love to
dissect you.

What
are you?

Law
enforcement?
S.H.I.E.L.D.?

Oh yes.
Yes. I know--
you're one of
Justin Hammer's
homemade
soldiers.

Well? Is
that the
case? Is
it?

No guhh
ugh...



...no, I'm
the haircut
police.

There's a
fifty dollar fine
for bowlcuts in
this city.



I like
my hair.



Ow!
Ow ow
ow!

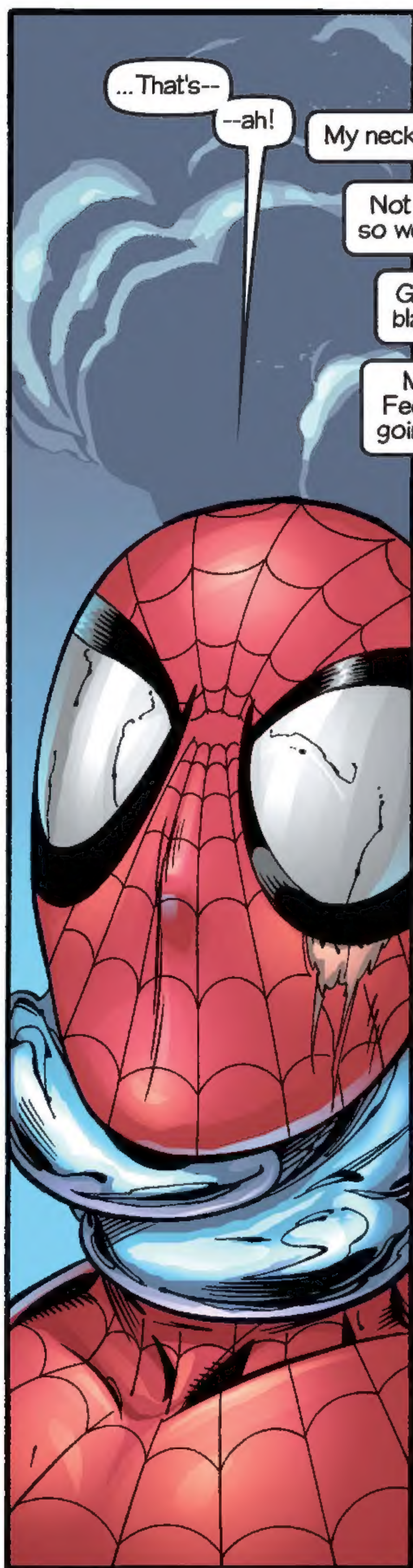
You know,
ah-- you're
uh-- ow--

--you're much
stronger than
you look.

But-- aah
I guess you'd
have to be.

You have
completely ruined
my moment
here.

Nggg--
Okay okay--
your hair is
fabulous!
Ahhh!



...That's--

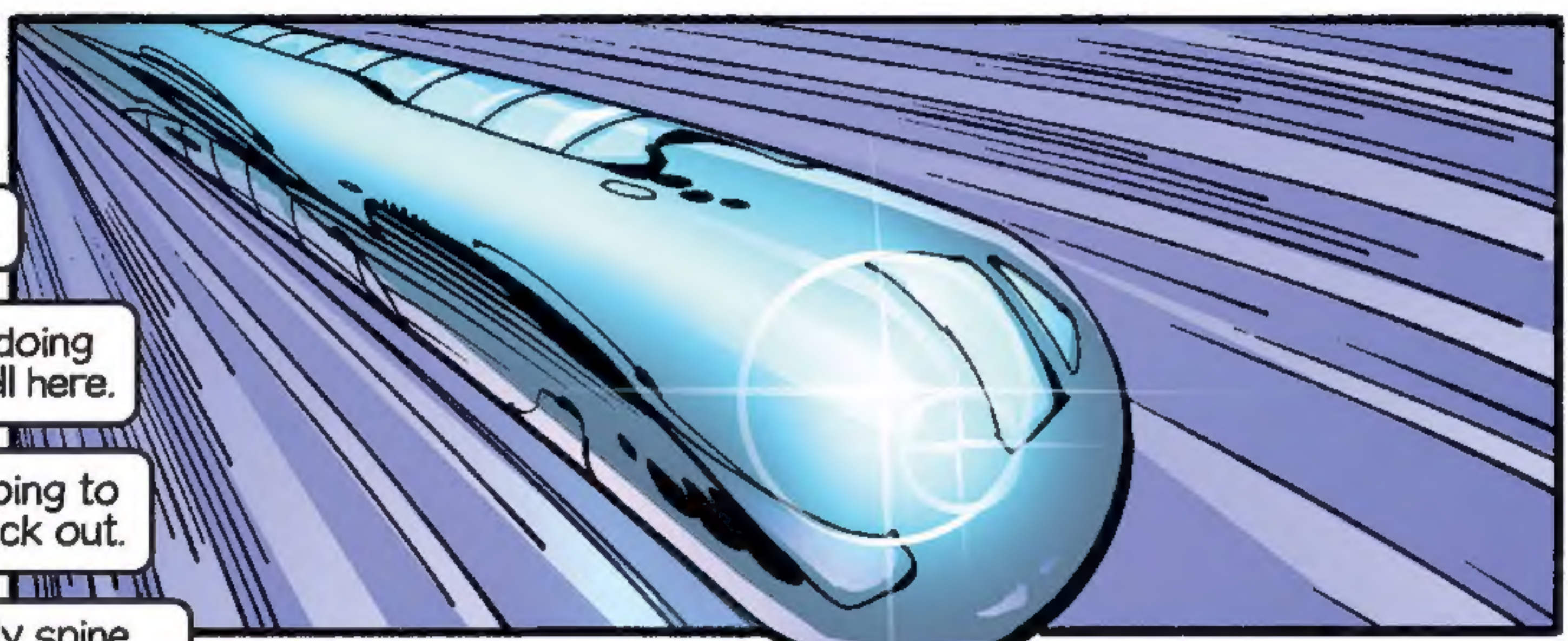
--ah!

My neck.

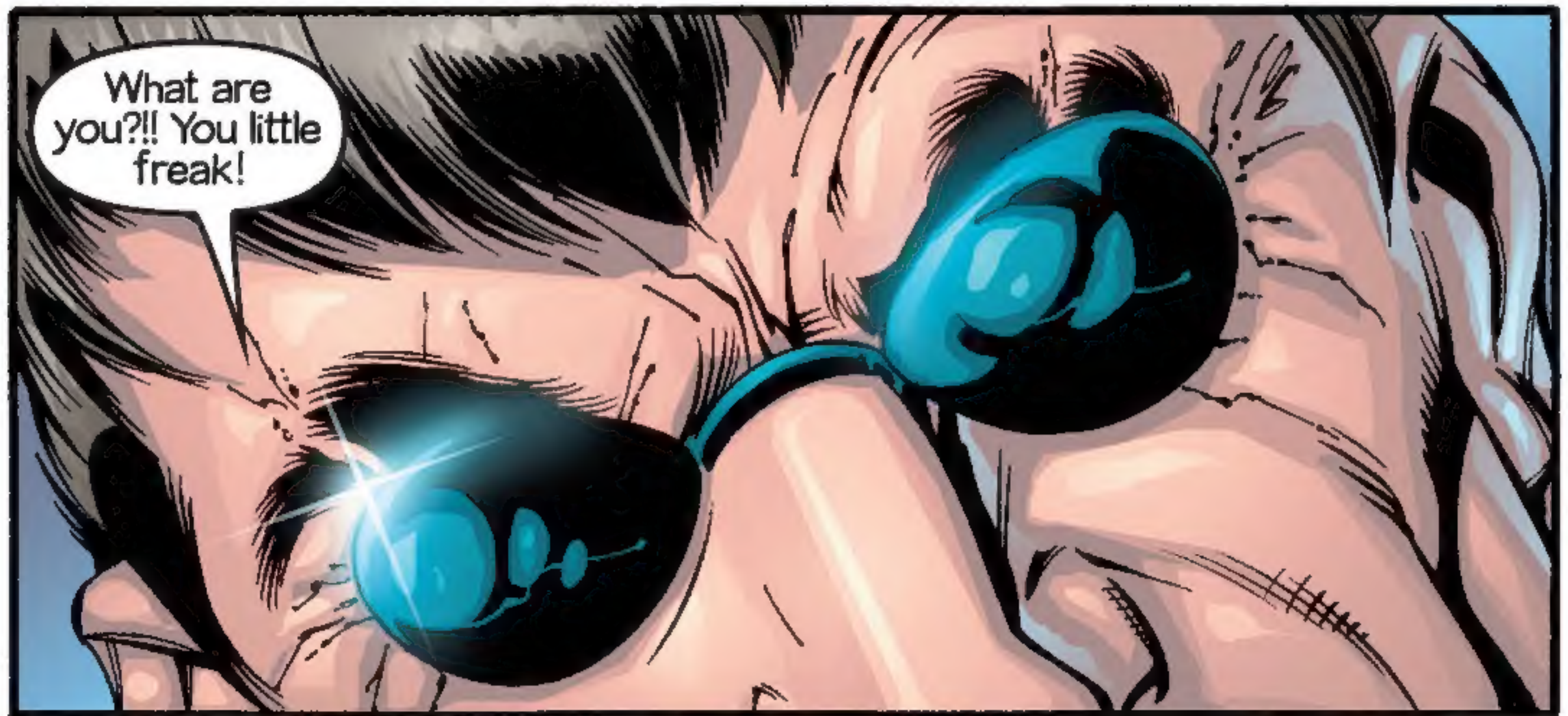
Not doing
so well here.

Going to
black out.

My spine.
Feels like it's
going to pop.



Aah!

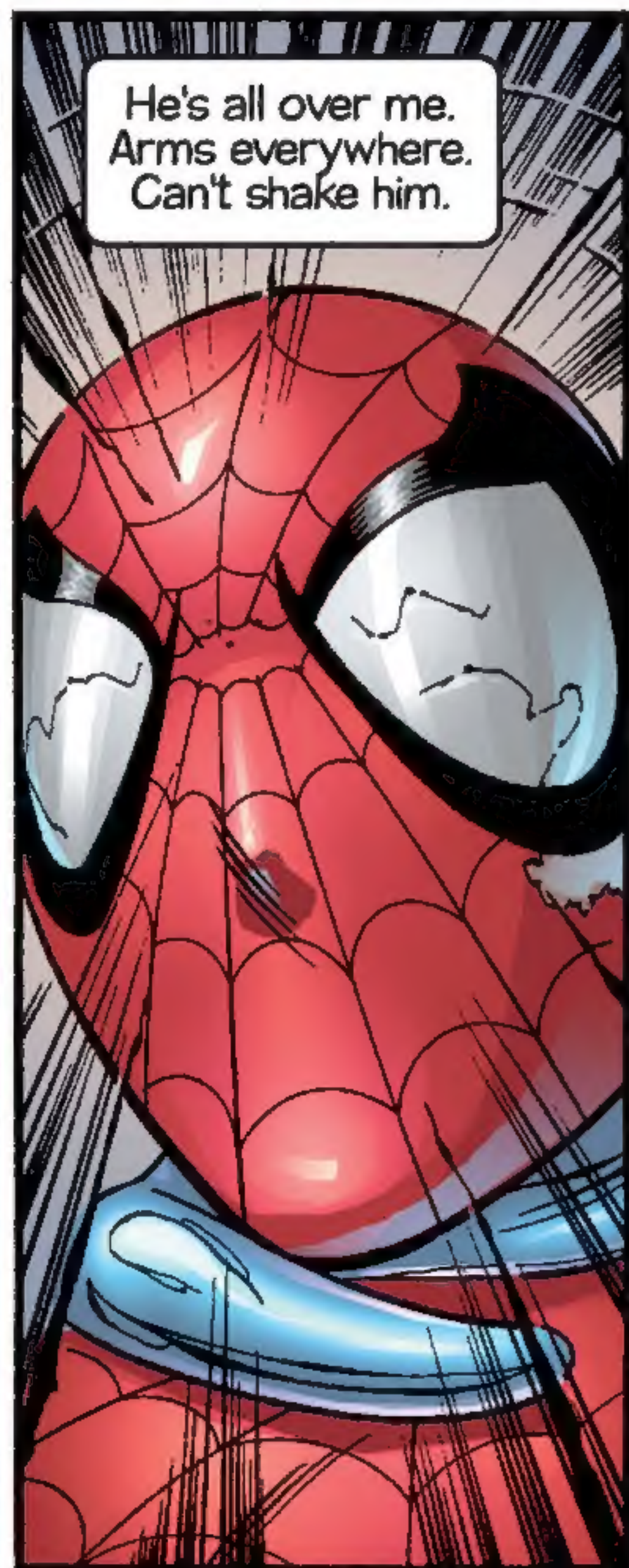


What are
you?!! You little
freak!

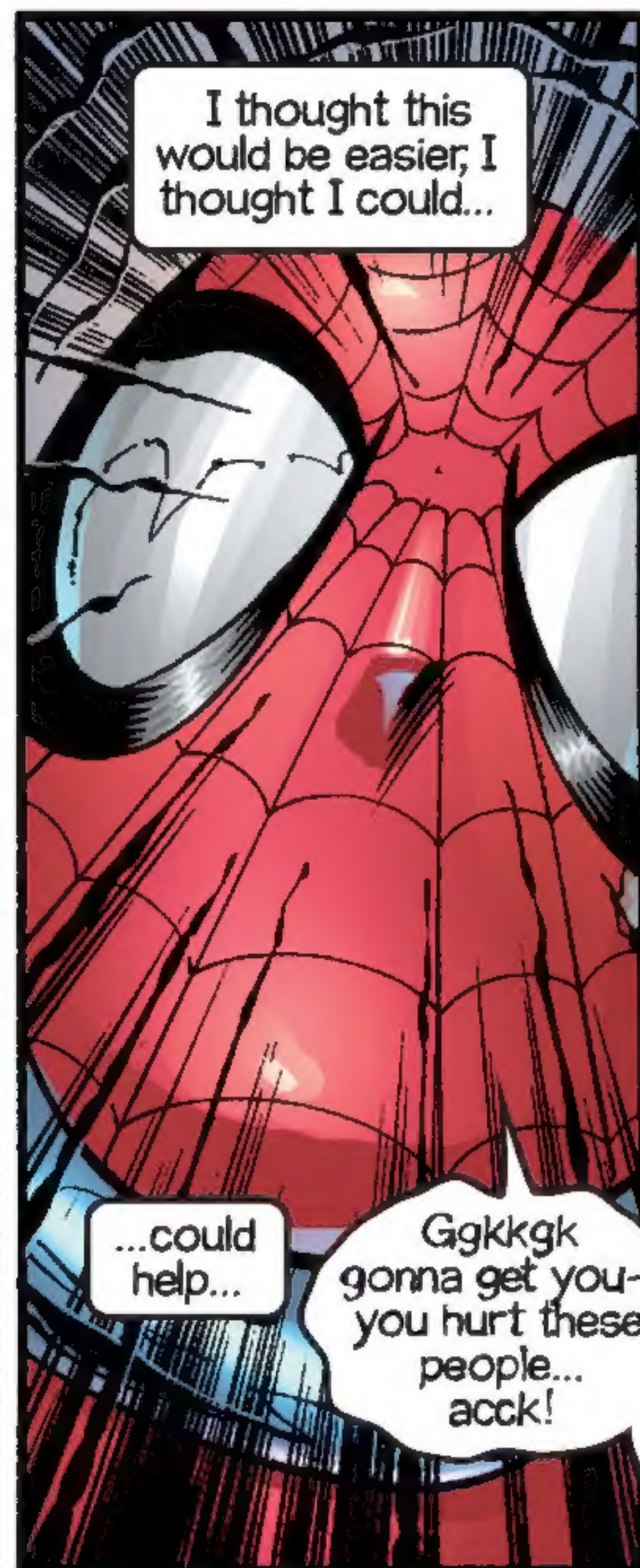


Well, if
that ain't the pot
calling the kettle...
ow!

I can't--
ow!



He's all over me.
Arms everywhere.
Can't shake him.

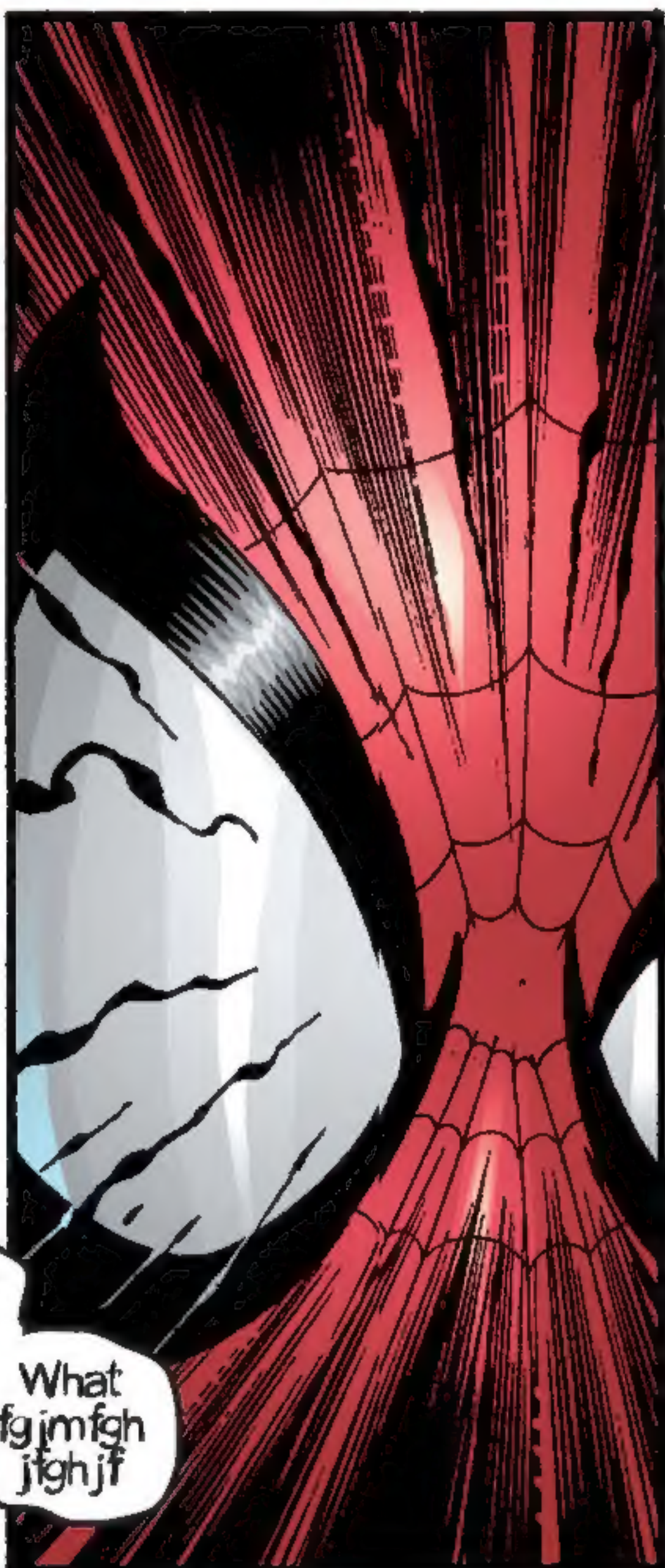


I thought this
would be easier; I
thought I could...

...could
help...

Ggkkkgk
gonna get you--
you hurt these
people...
ackk!

What
fjgmfgh
jghj!



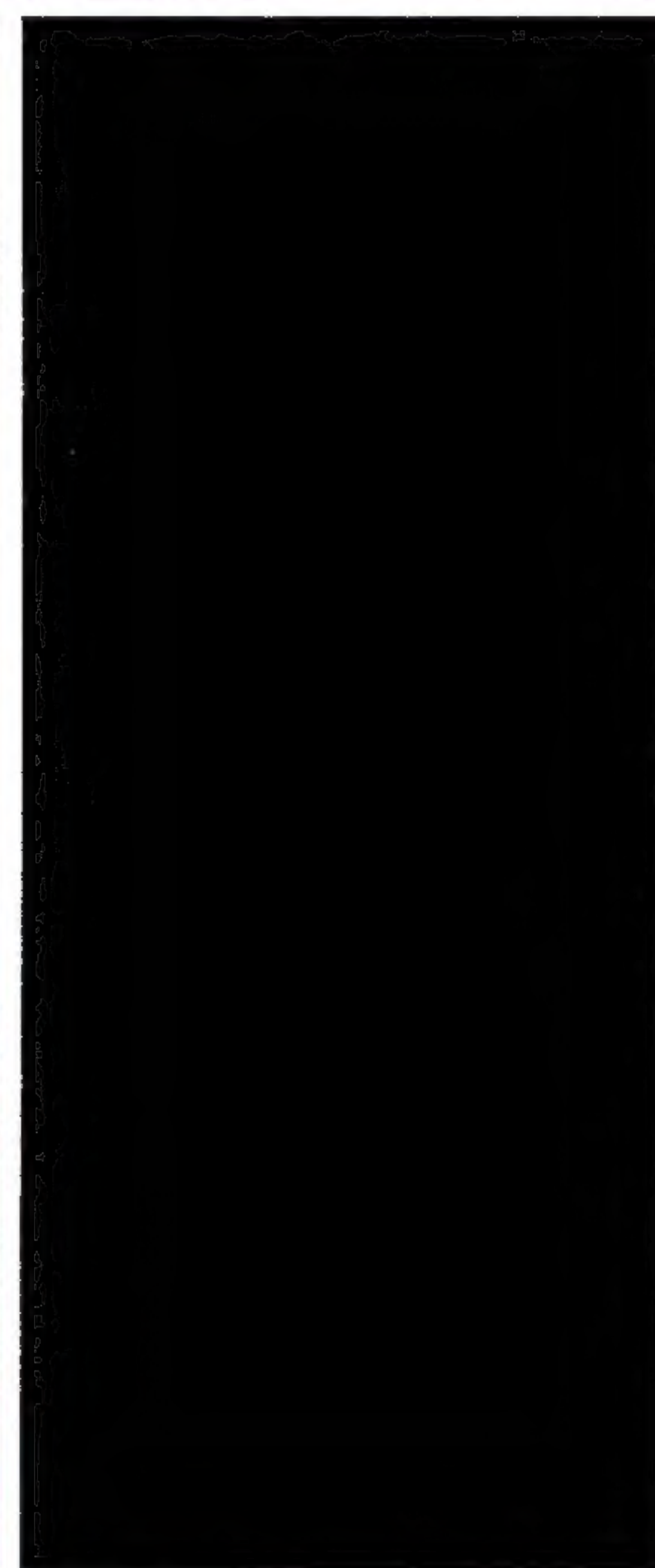
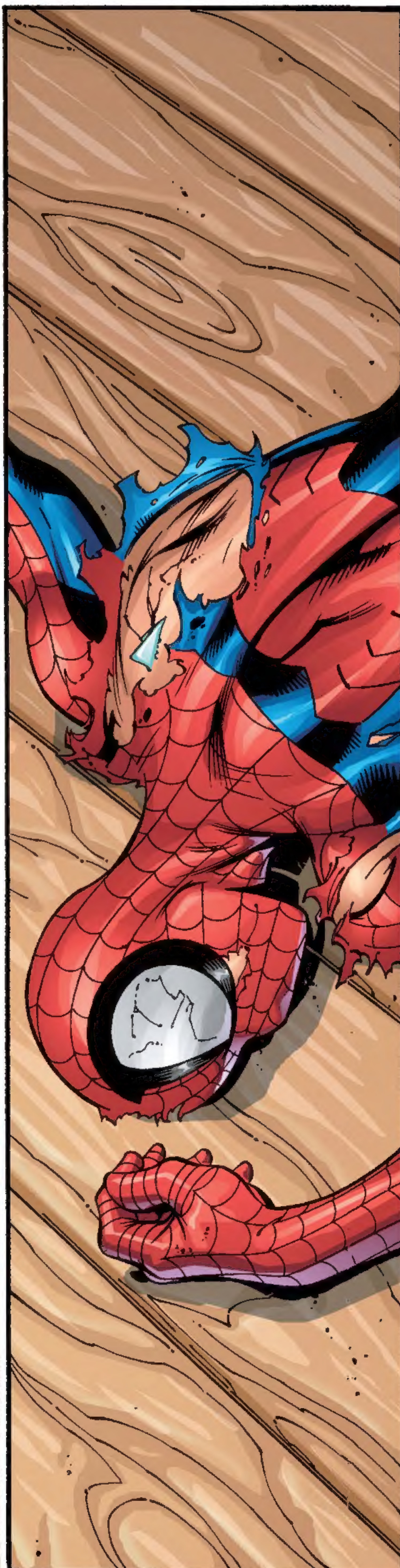
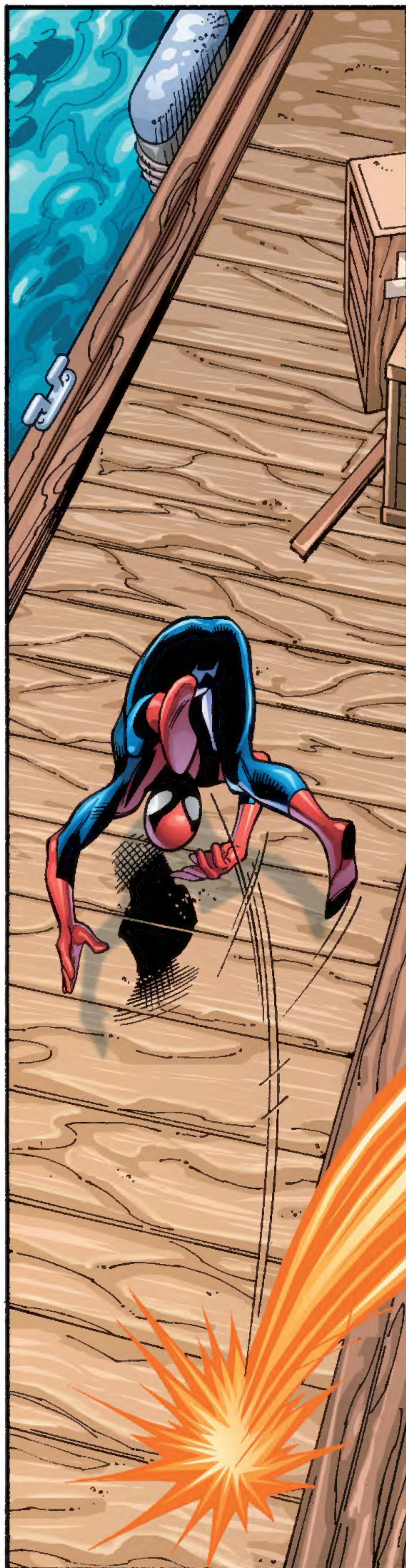
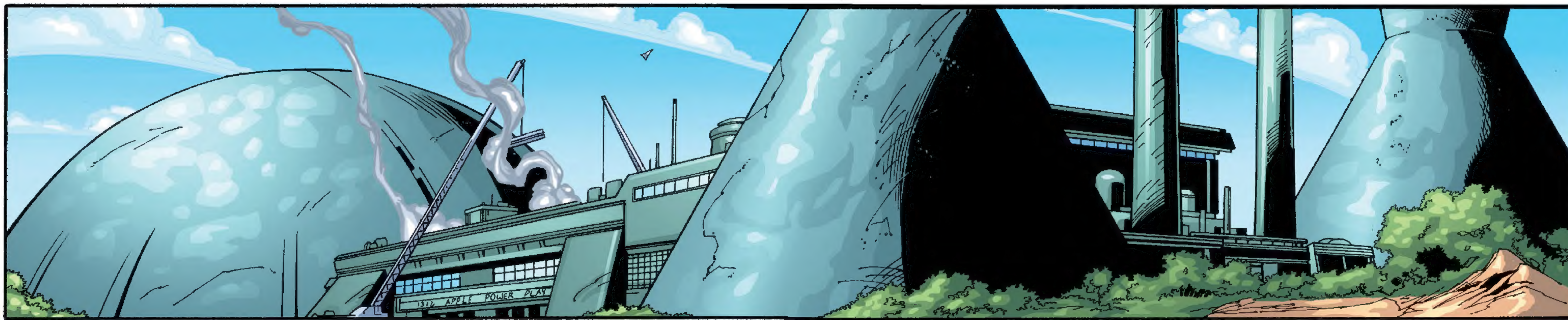
ZzT



ZzzzzzTtttt

Oh no...

...oh no...



Captain,
we have him
over here!

Is he
awake?

Take
off his
mask.

Over
here...



Mmmwhat's
goin' on?

He's
awake.

He's
up.

Lieutenant,
over here!!



Stay down!
Stay down!!

Don't
you move!

Don't you
move a muscle
or I will blow
your head
off!!

W-what?
What's goin'
on? Hey!



He's up!!
Don't--
Don't you
move!!

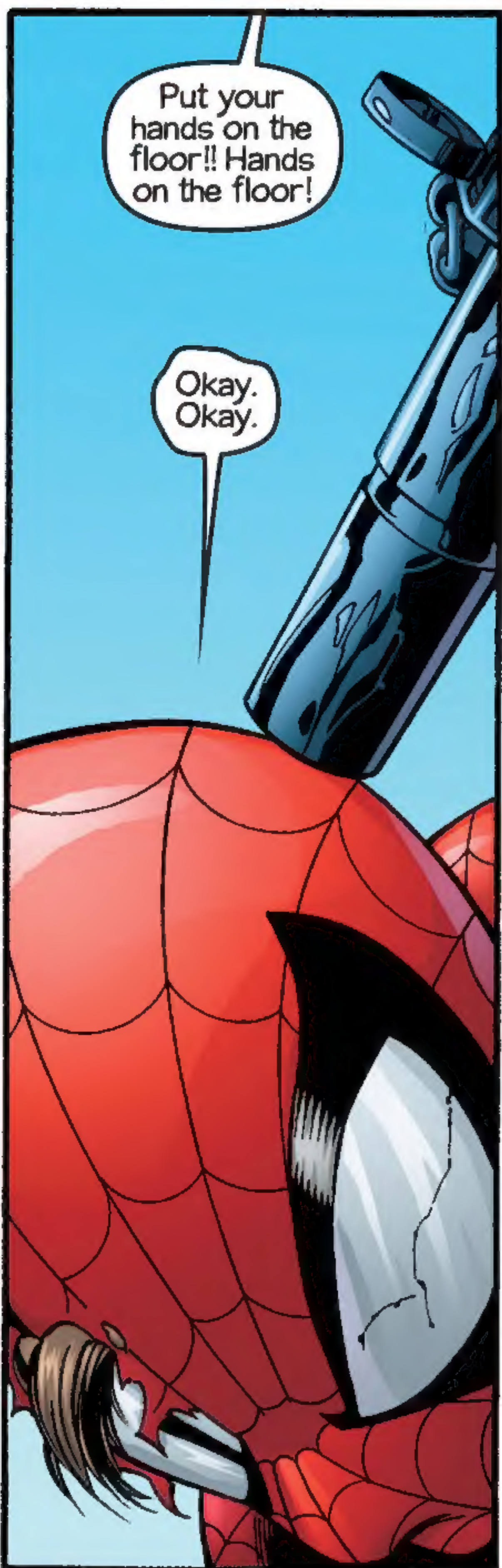
Put your
hands on the
floor!!

Hands
on the
floor!!!

What
happened
to--?

Shut up! Lie
on the ground
with your hands
over your
head!!

--the guy
with the
arms?



Put your
hands on the
floor!! Hands
on the floor!

Okay.
Okay.



I mean
it-- you mutant
freak! I will blow
your head off!



I-- I don't
know what
to do...

I-- I can't fight
the police. Oh
man, they're the--

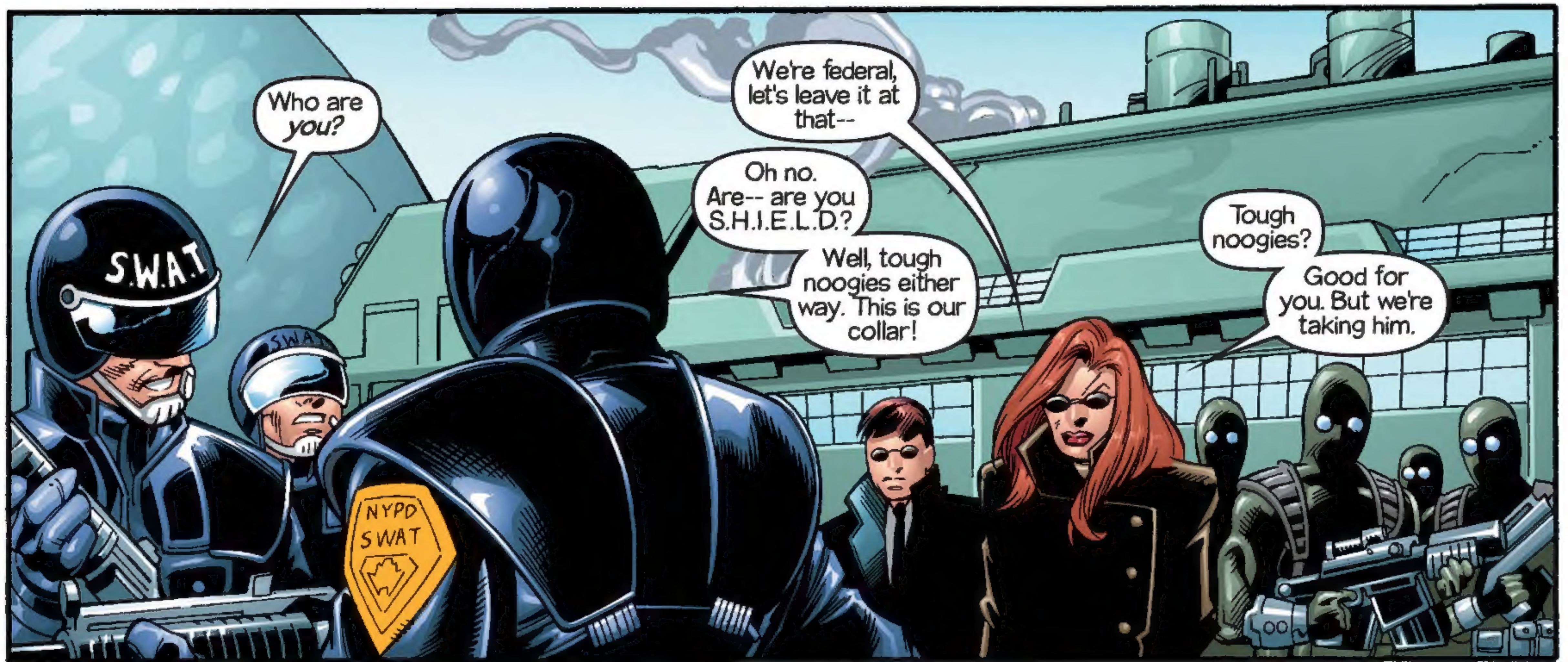
You have 'til
the count of
three!!

Okay! But
hey, listen, ow--
listen--I'm not
the guy you--



Don't give
me your song
and dance--
Josie, cuff the
mutant!

We'll take
it from here,
officer.



Who are you?

We're federal, let's leave it at that--

Oh no. Are-- are you S.H.I.E.L.D.?

Well, tough noogies either way. This is our collar!

Tough noogies?

Good for you. But we're taking him.



Make a move and you're a pile of dust!

Listen, lady!

Lord in heaven-- calm yourself, officer! You have--

This is ours!

There are hurt civilian people here for you to--

This is our territory! This is our bust!

But there's a--



Should we de-mask the perp, Agent Carter?

You know what, lady? I want to see some ID. You just can't waltz in here--

Agent Carter? Should we--?

You can't just waltz in here and--

Do you know what a 45 article B is, officer? It's a federal offense. It means obstructing federal officers while in pursuit of a--

What?



Should we de-mask him then shackle him because we don't--

Are you threatening me?

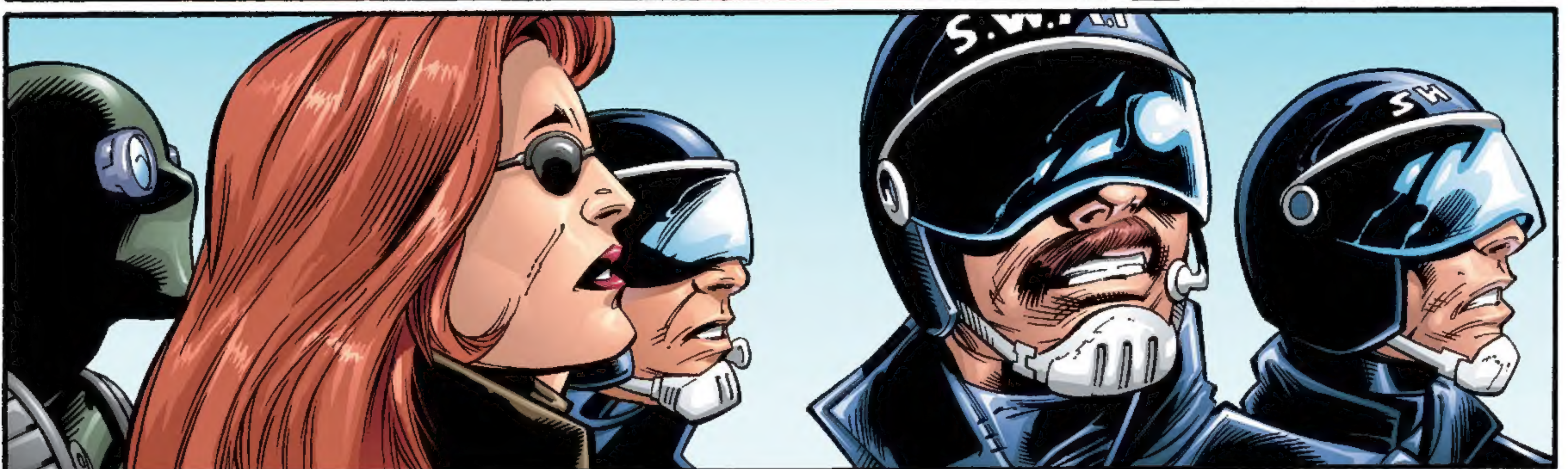
Well, if you think I would even blink before clapping the cuffs on you as well -- you are living in a dream world, pal!

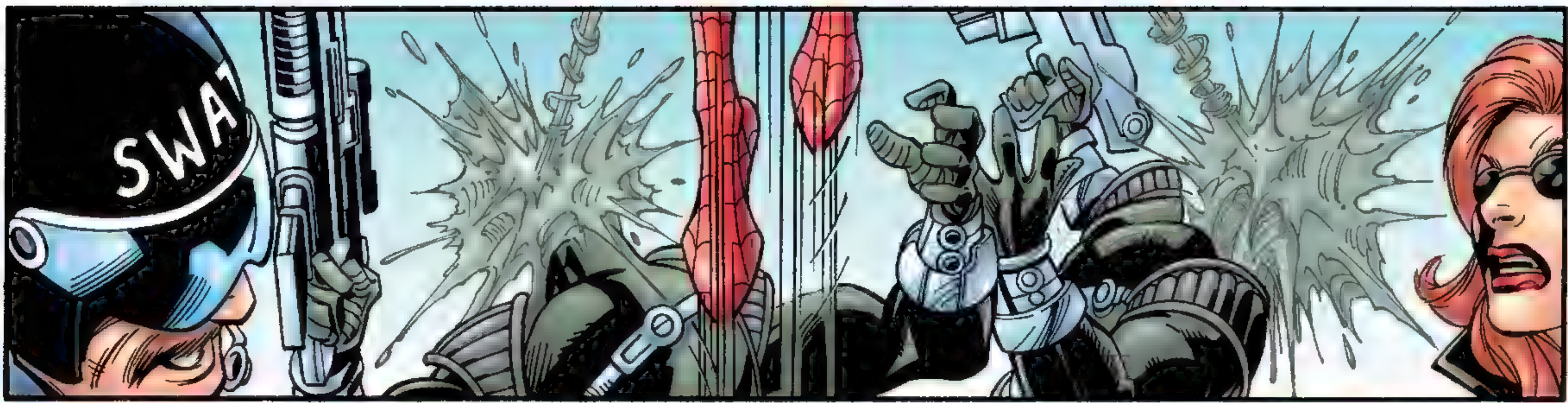
Are you guys getting this?

Stand down, lieutenant!!

I want to see some ID, girl!

Hey, is that Charlton Heston?





Psyche!

Aah! What is this?

THWIPP

THWIPP

BLAM

BLAM

BLAM

Thank god my web shooters are still working.

Oh man, I'm gonna heave! Total head spins.

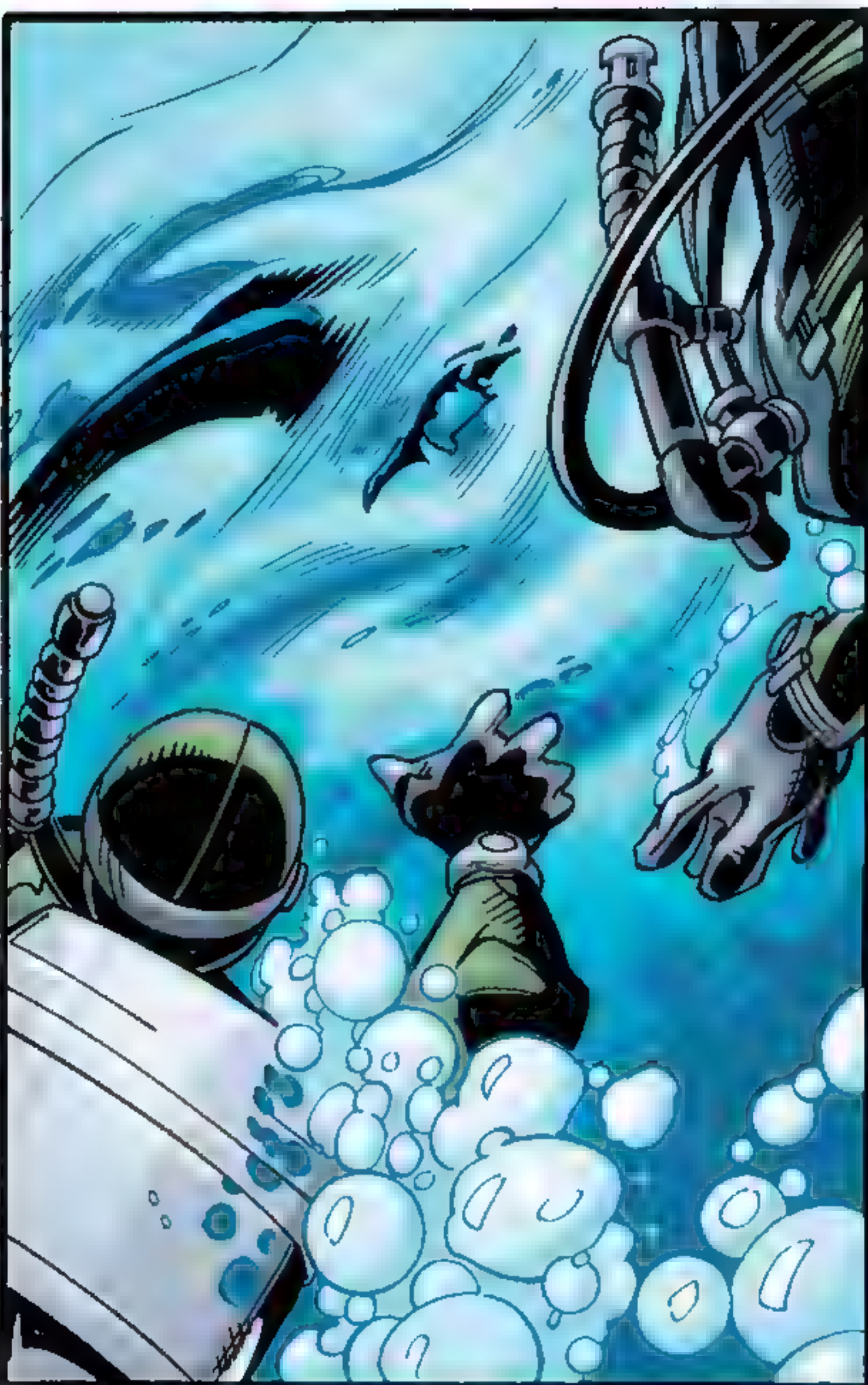
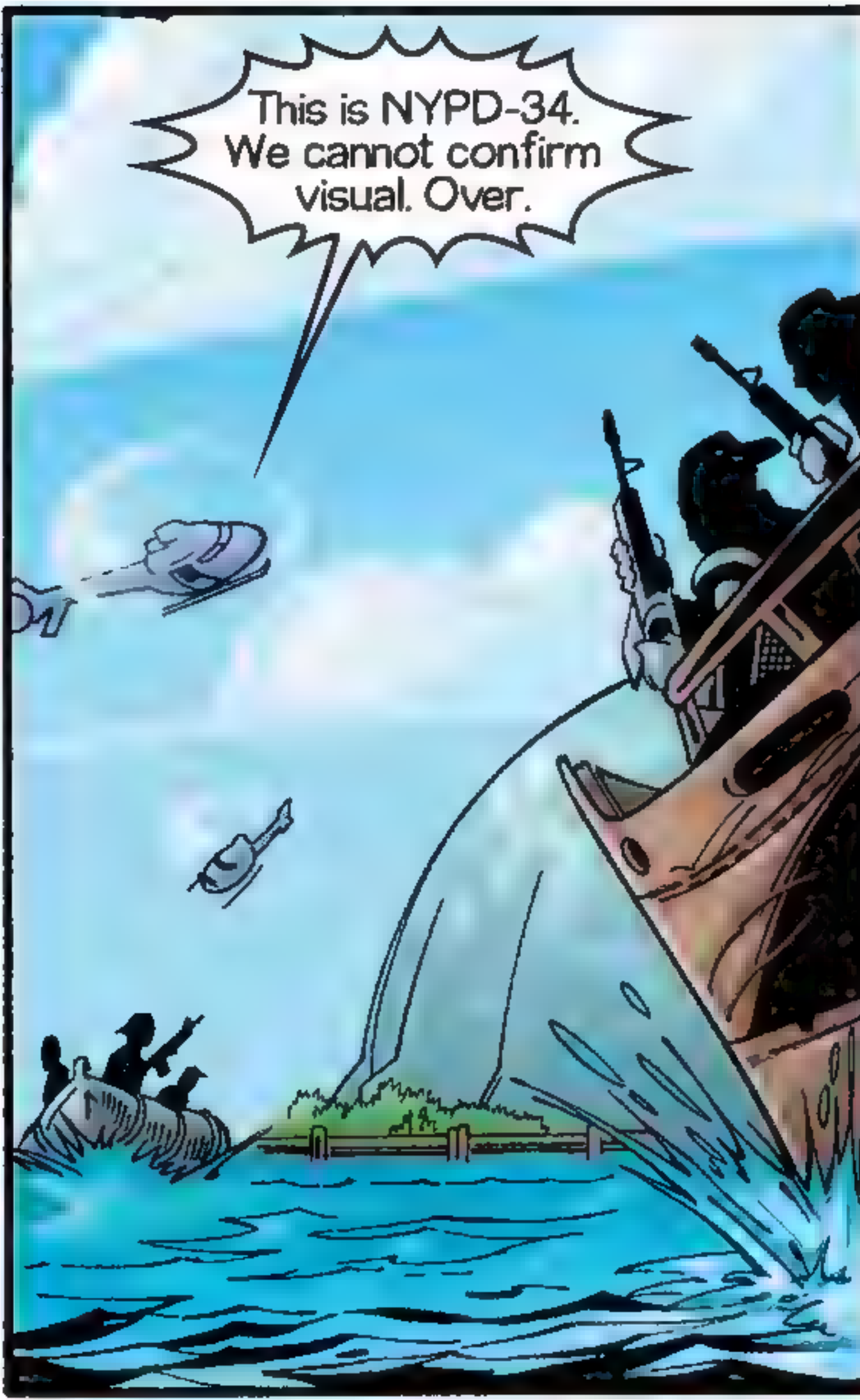
BOON

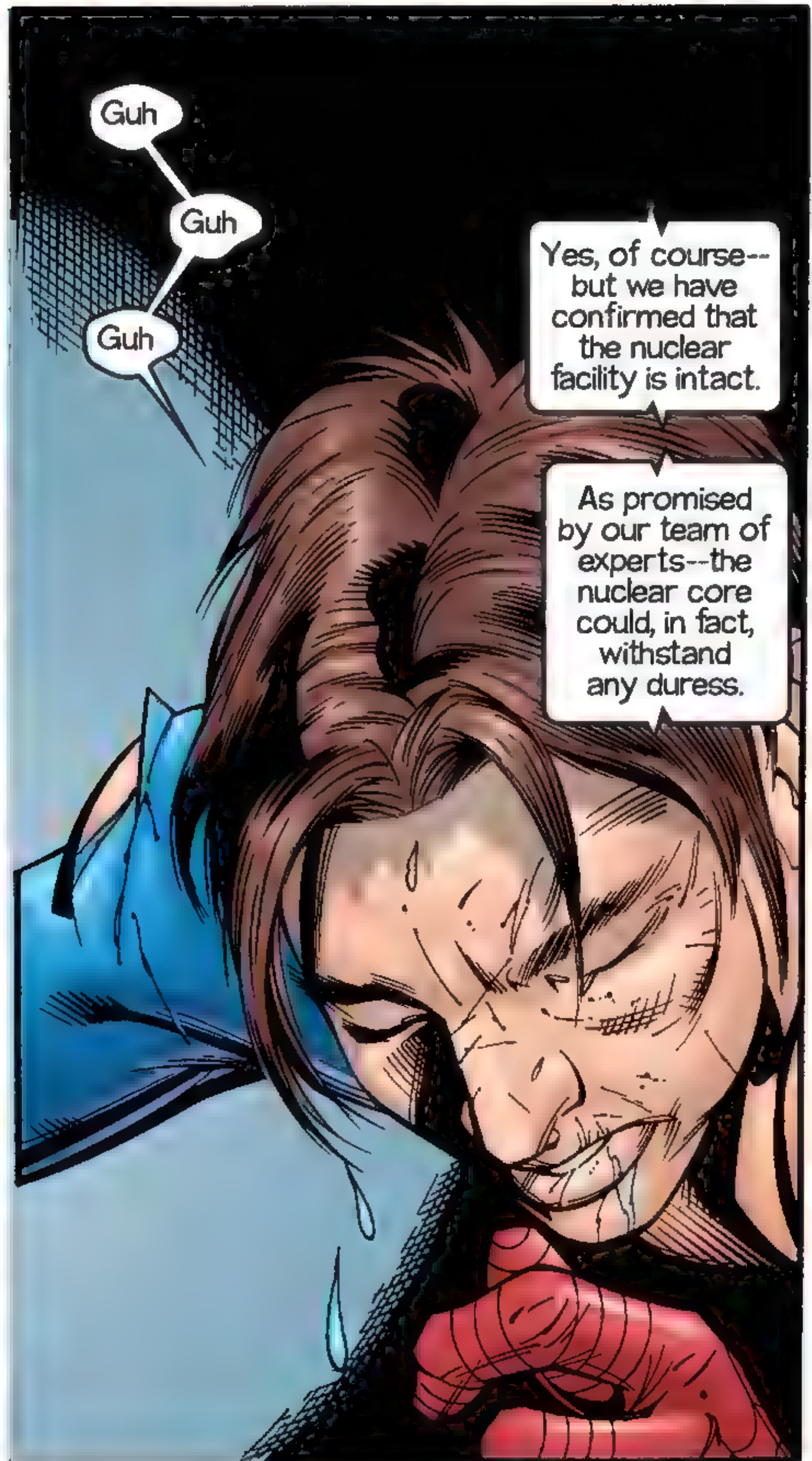
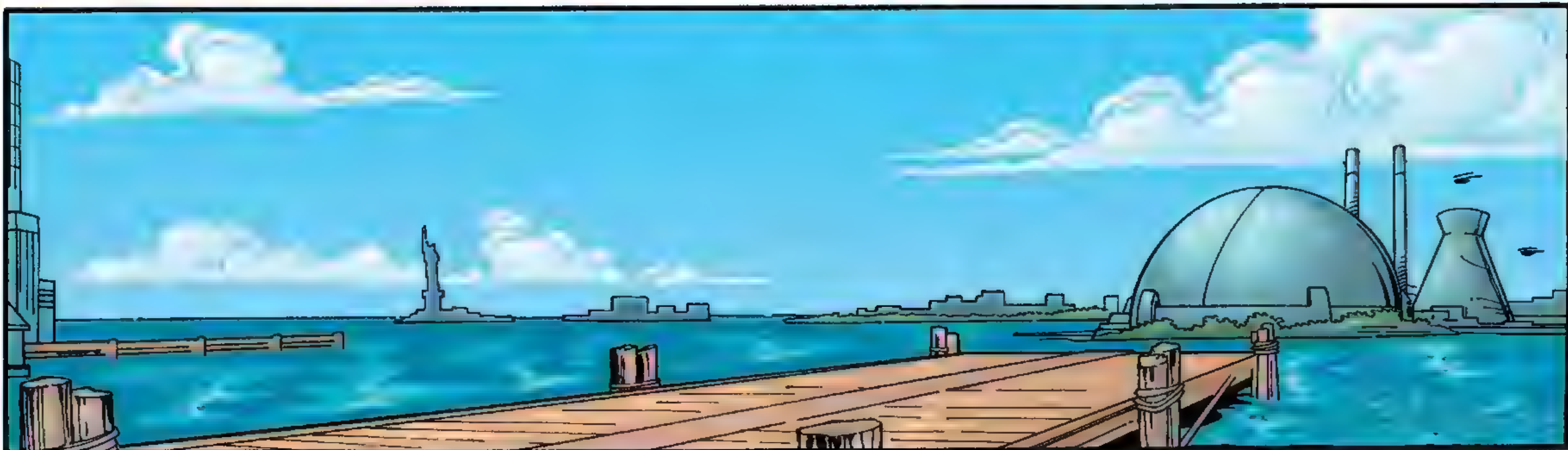
BOON

BLAM

BLAM

What? fgjmfgh jfgh jf





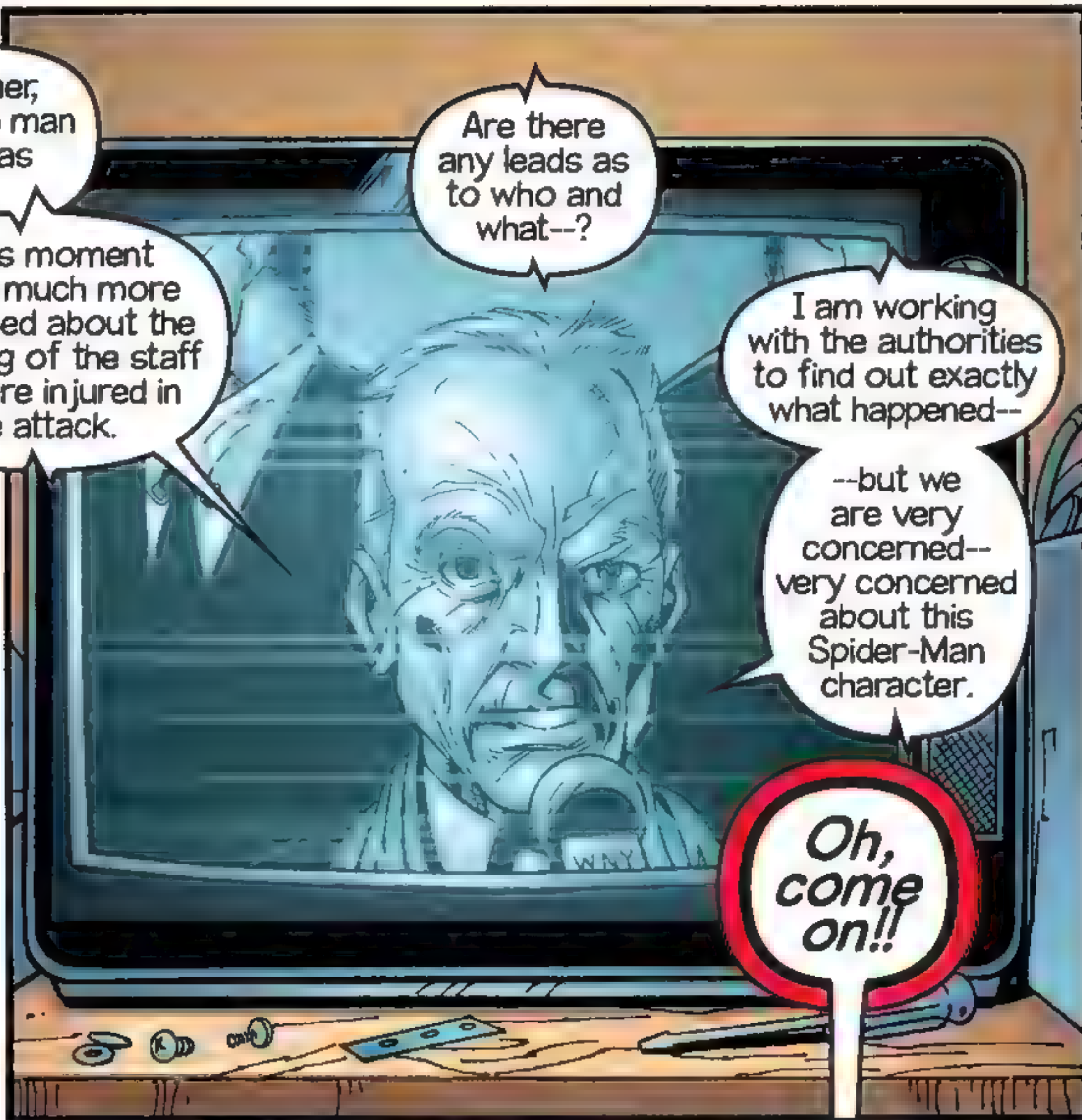


Even *attempted* sabotage. I am sorry we had to find out in such a fashion--

--but we do know that the dome facility is secure and running.

Mr. Hammer, reports of a man identified as Otto--

At this moment we are much more concerned about the well-being of the staff that were injured in the attack.

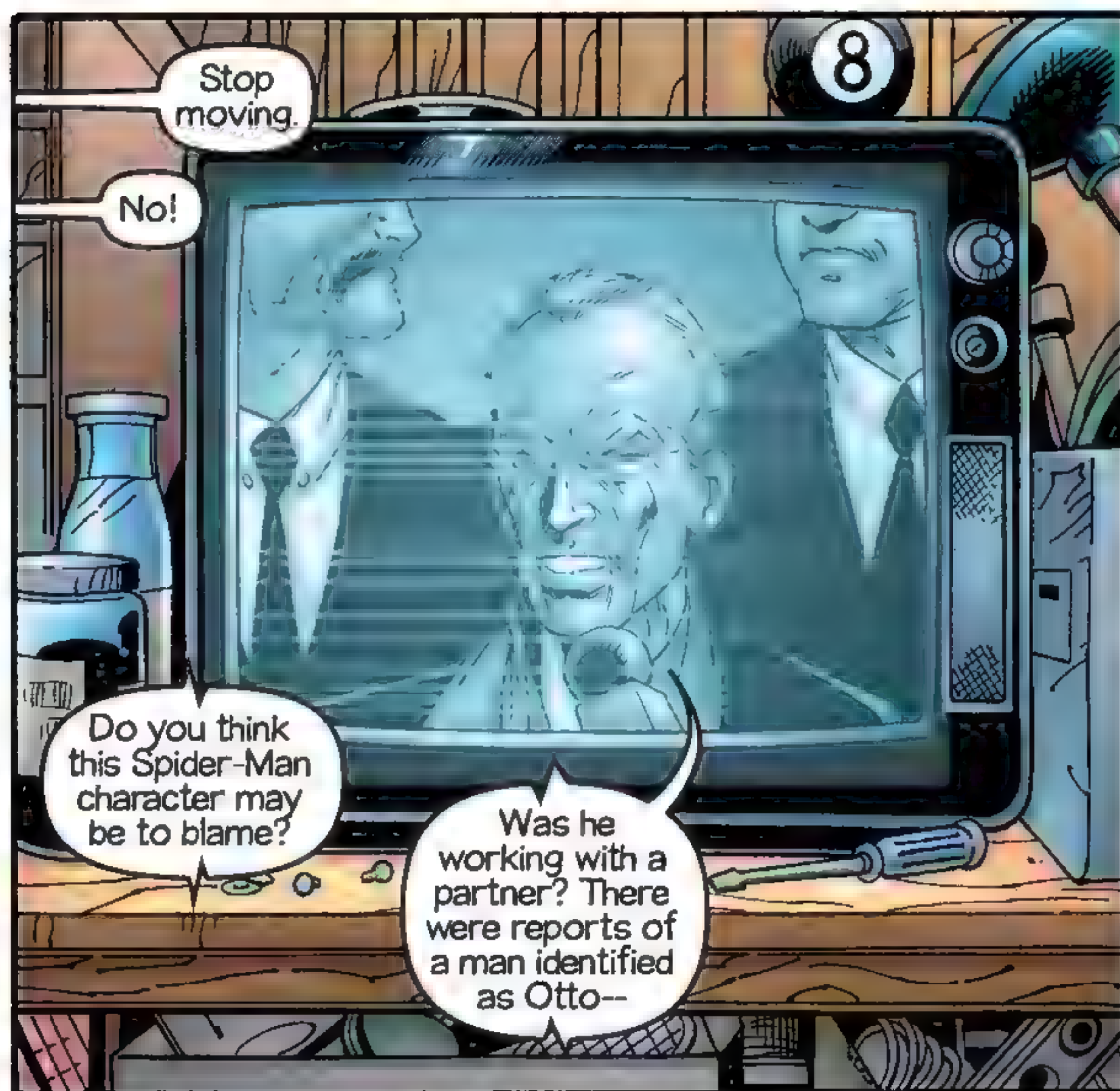


Are there any leads as to who and what--?

I am working with the authorities to find out exactly what happened--

--but we are very concerned--very concerned about this Spider-Man character.

Oh, come on!!

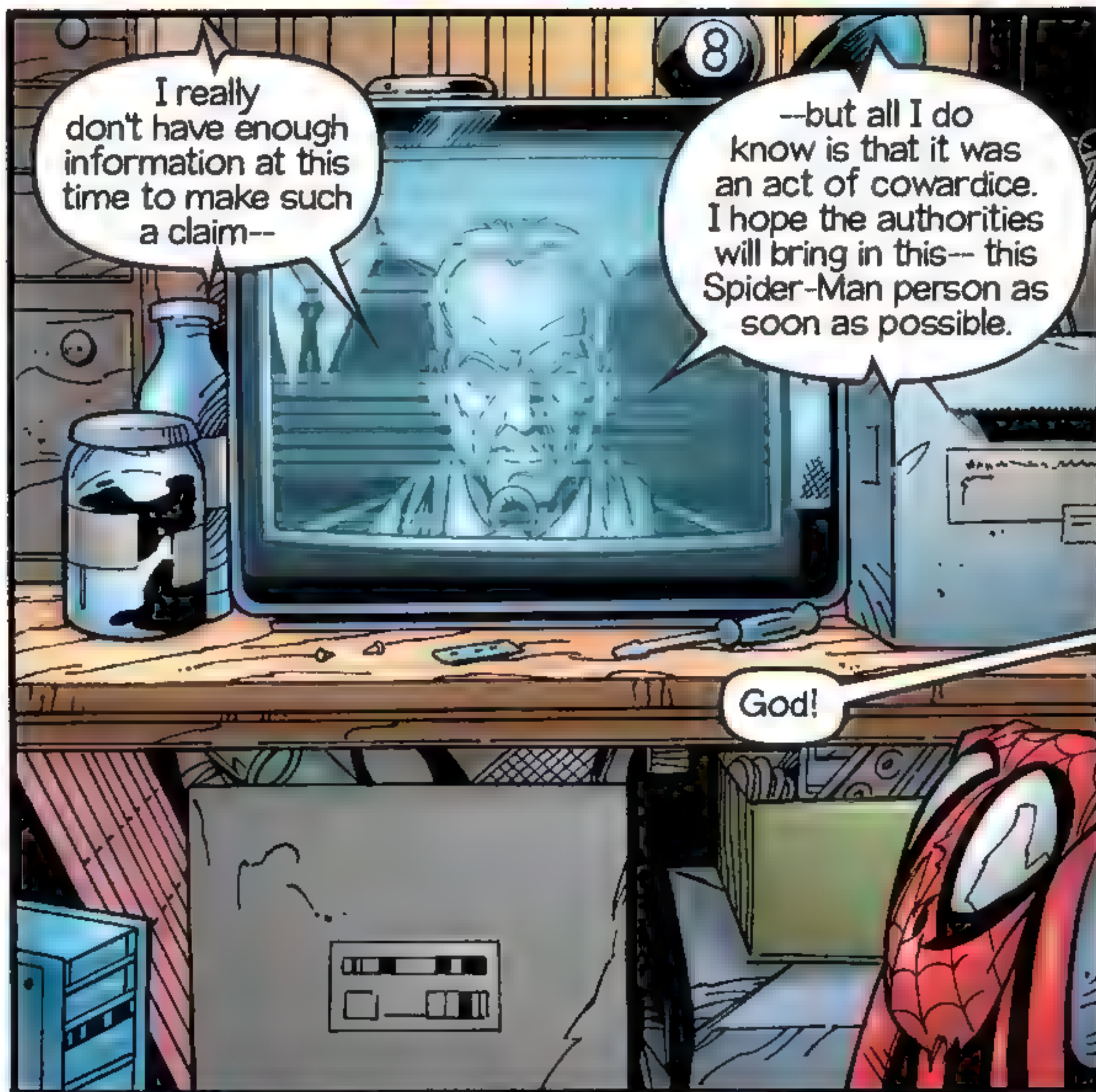


Stop moving.

No!

Do you think this Spider-Man character may be to blame?

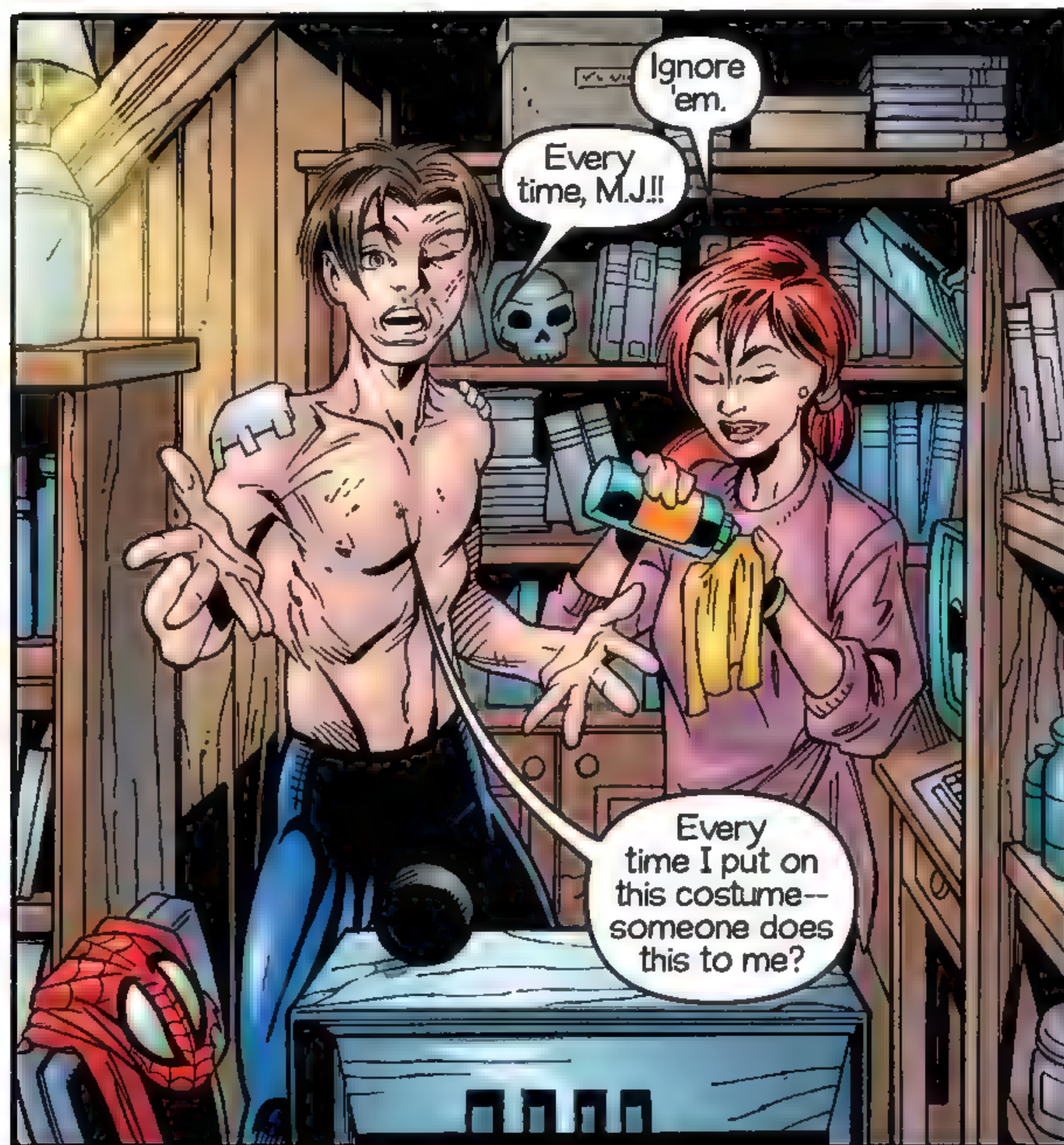
Was he working with a partner? There were reports of a man identified as Otto--



I really don't have enough information at this time to make such a claim--

--but all I do know is that it was an act of cowardice. I hope the authorities will bring in this-- this Spider-Man person as soon as possible.

God!



Ignore 'em.

Every time, M.J.!!

Every time I put on this costume--someone does this to me?



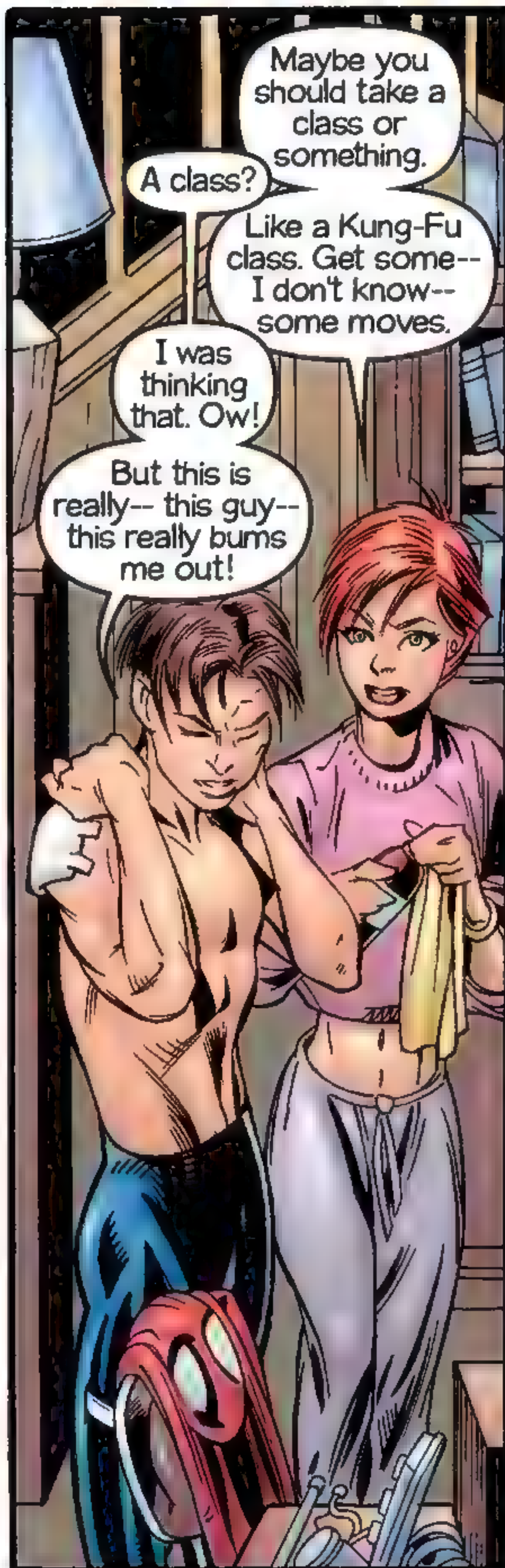
Who cares? Forget 'em.

I tried to help!

You *did* help from the sound of it.

No, I got my butt kicked... *again*. Ah!

And now--and now this guy is on TV...



Maybe you should take a class or something.

A class?

Like a Kung-Fu class. Get some-- I don't know-- some moves.

I was thinking that. Ow!

But this is really-- this guy-- this really burns me out!



Why would he say that?

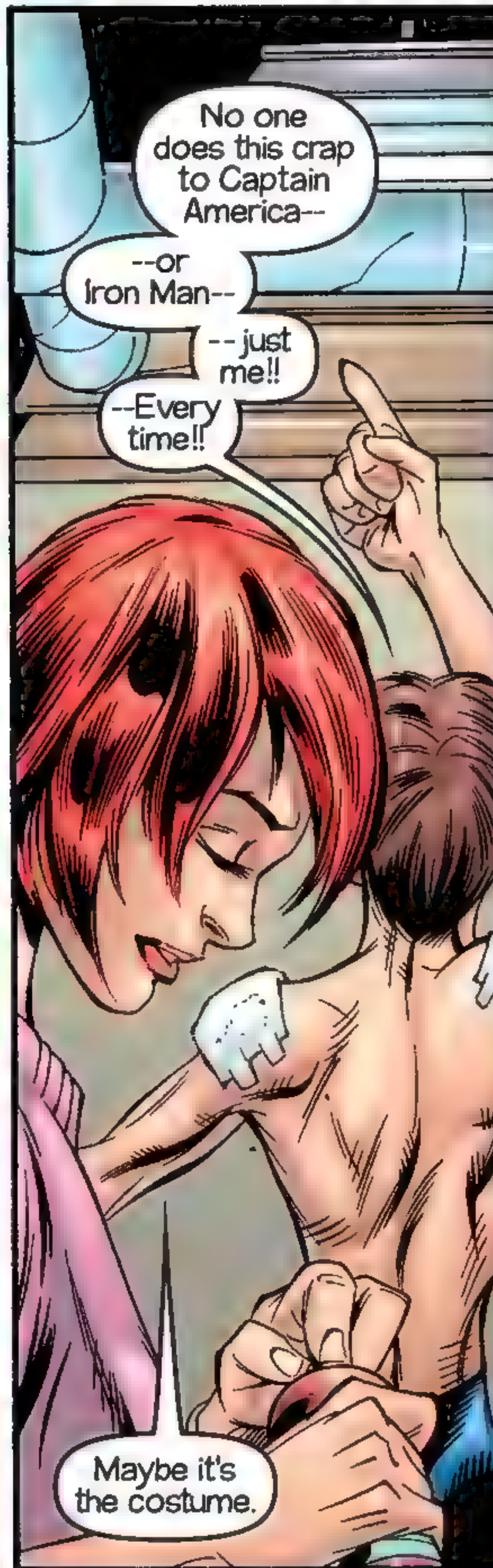
He knows that this Doctor guy with the arms is after him. He knows that!

Why would he blame it on me? What did I do? I tried to help. Hello?? I tried to help?

There's a cycle beginning here of me trying to help-- me getting my butt kicked up and down the street--

--and me trying to figure out what went wrong while the news has a field day.

It's a cycle and I-I-I-hate it!



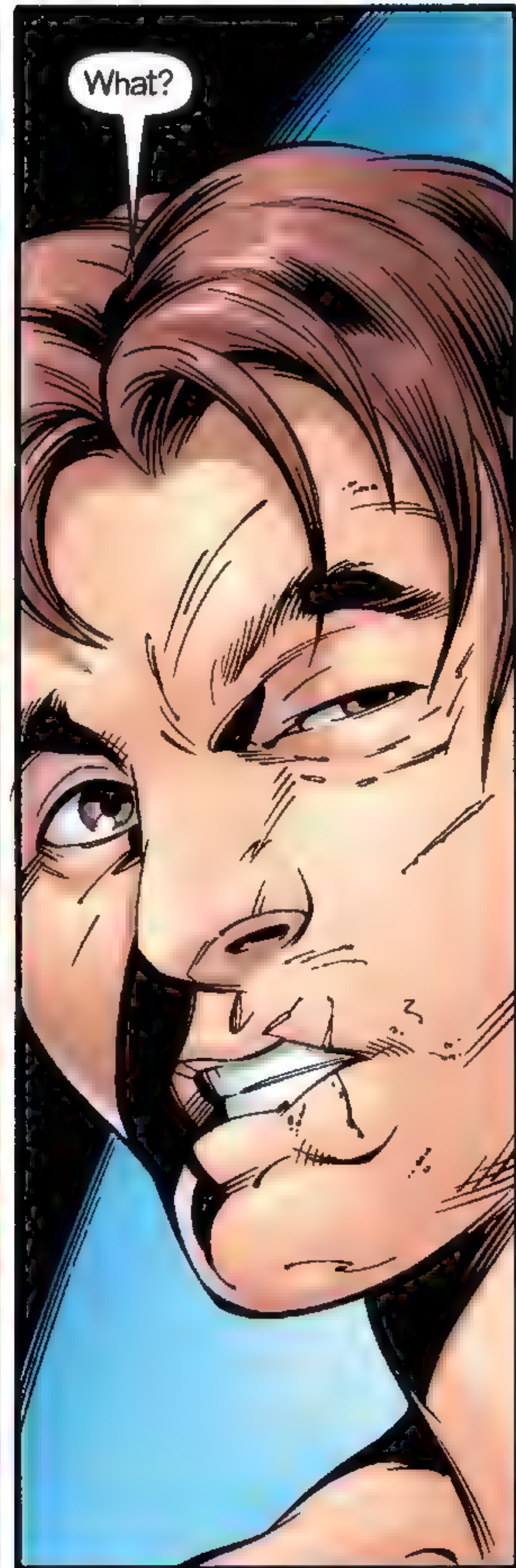
No one does this crap to Captain America--

--or Iron Man--

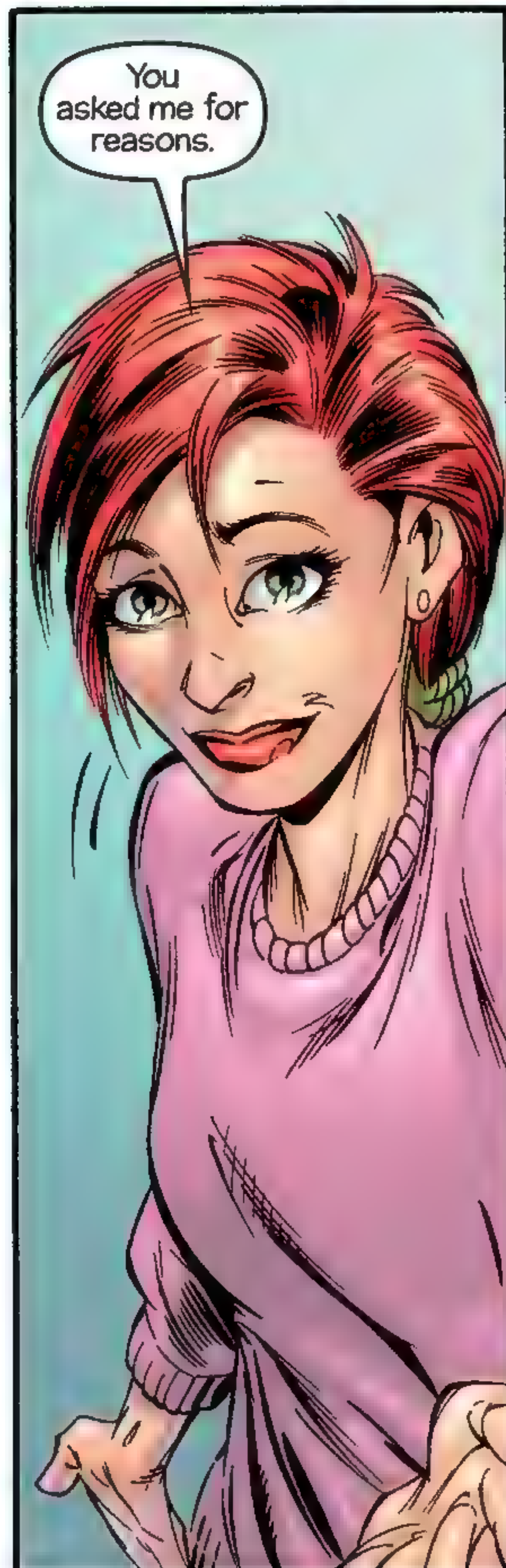
--just me!!

--Every time!!

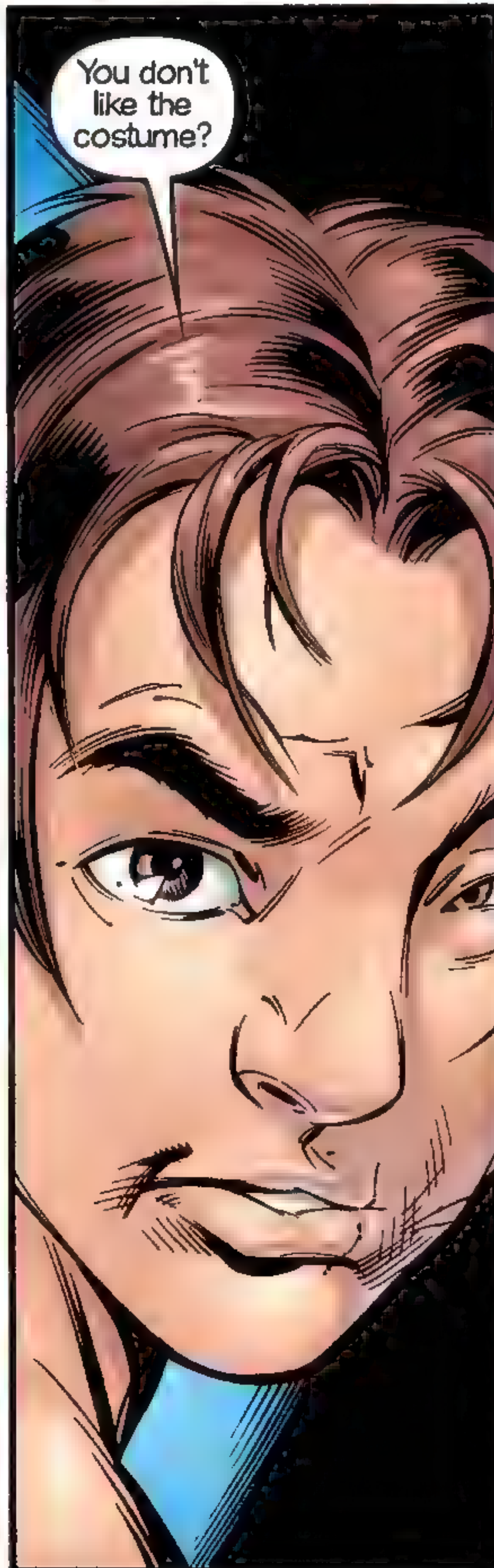
Maybe it's the costume.



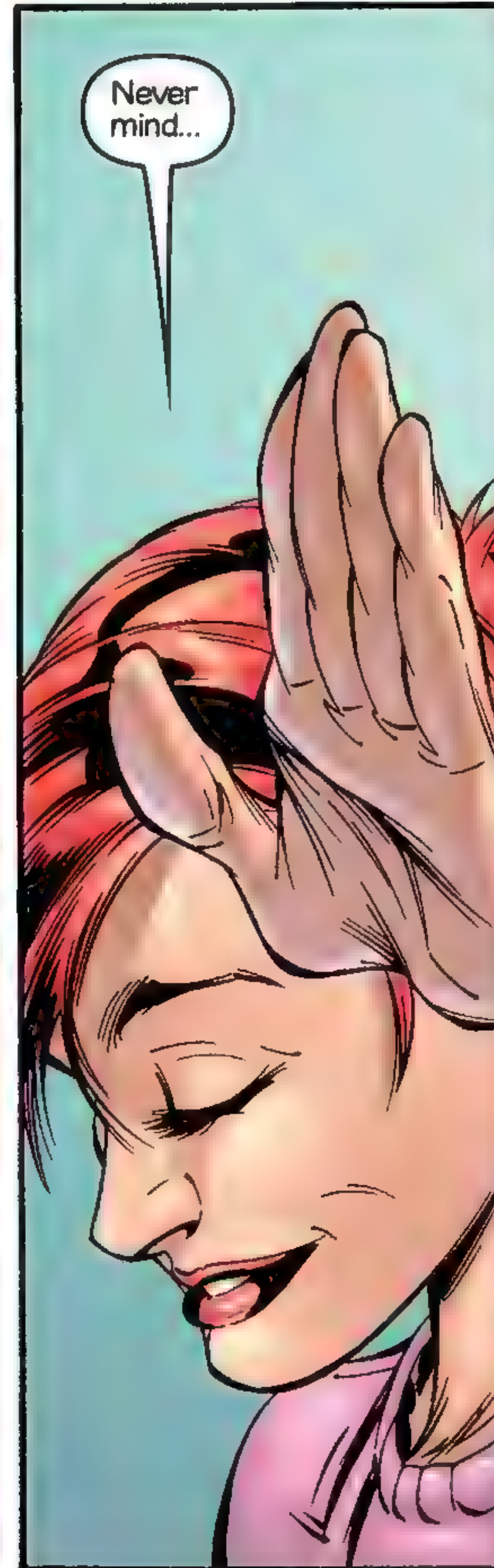
What?



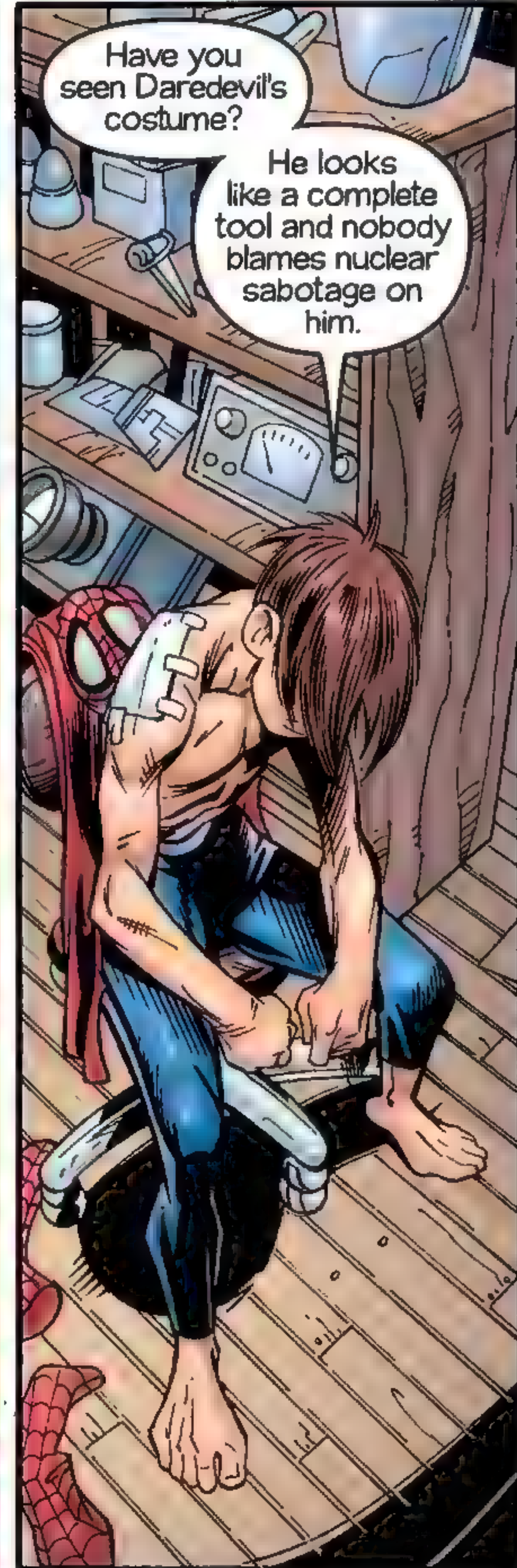
You asked me for reasons.



You don't like the costume?

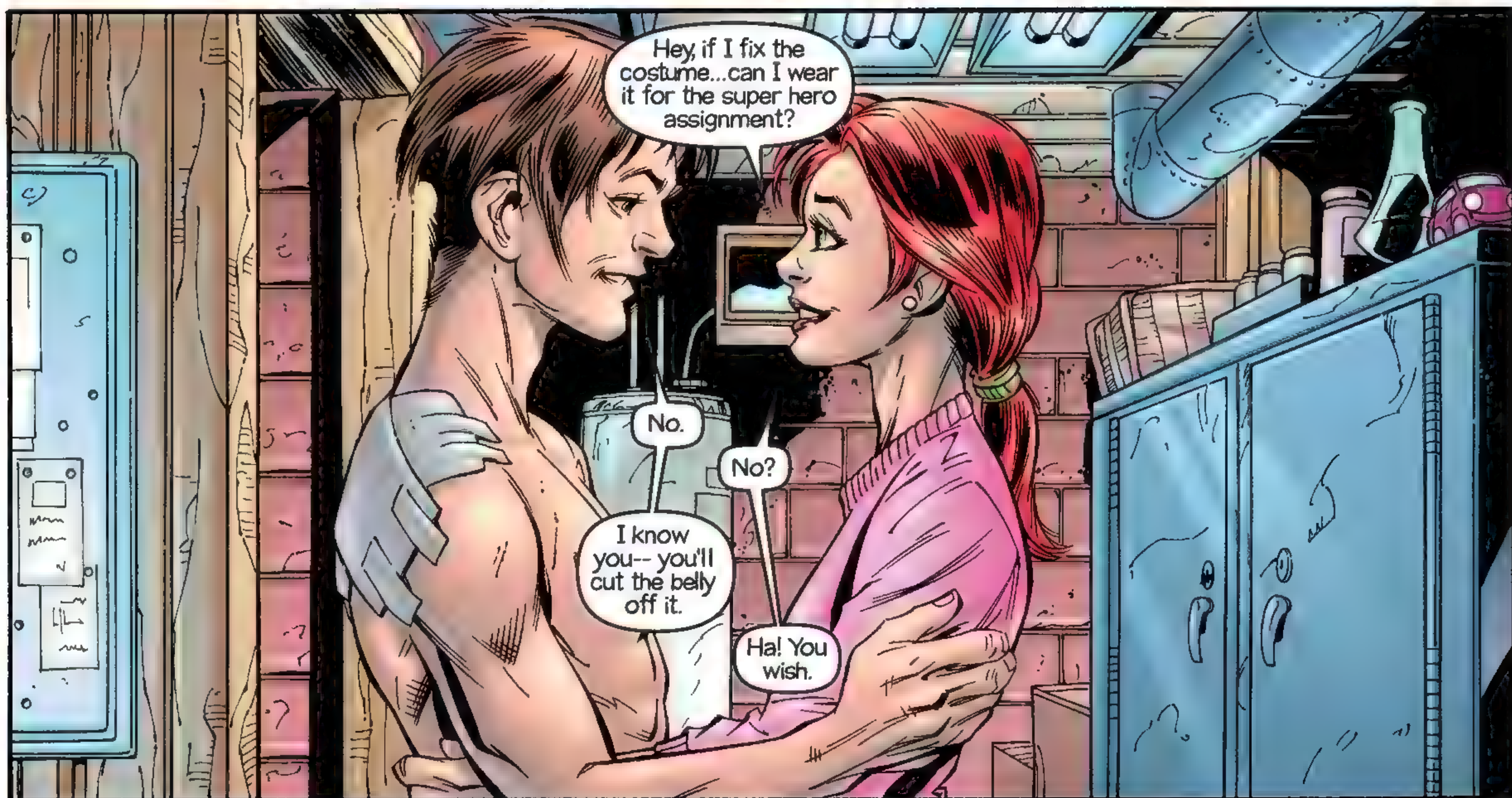
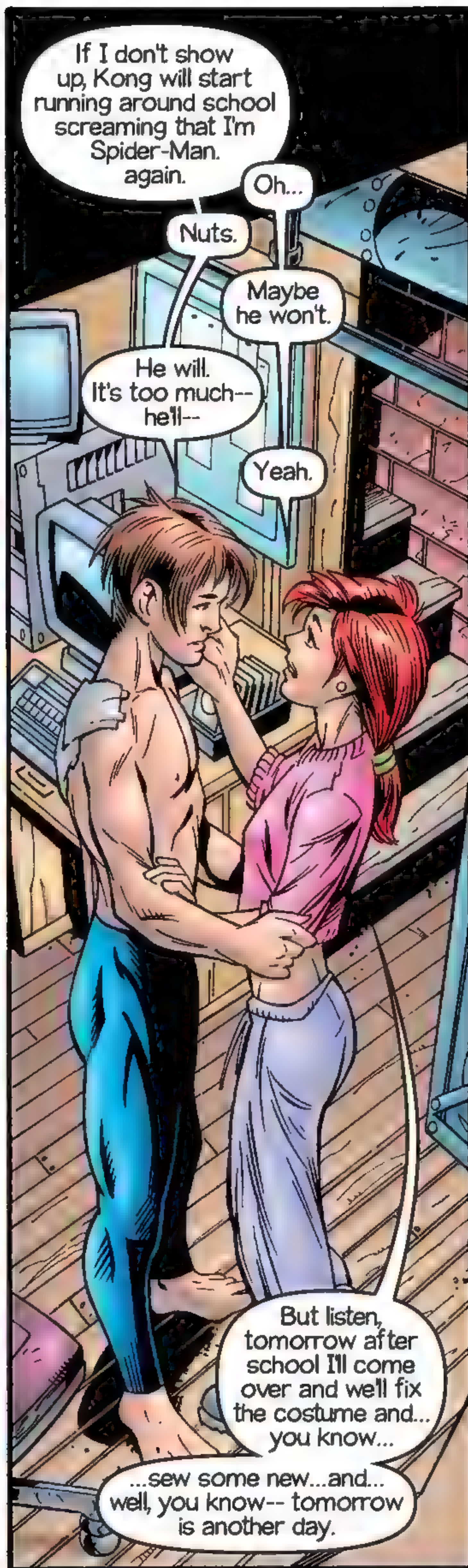


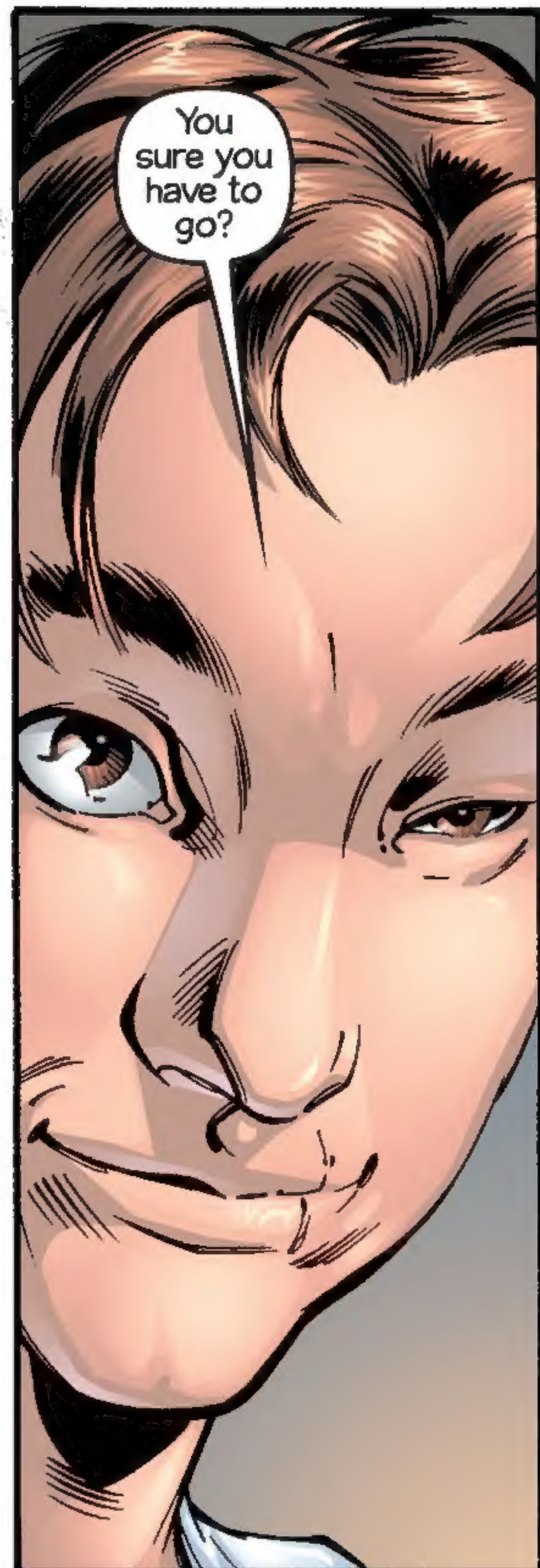
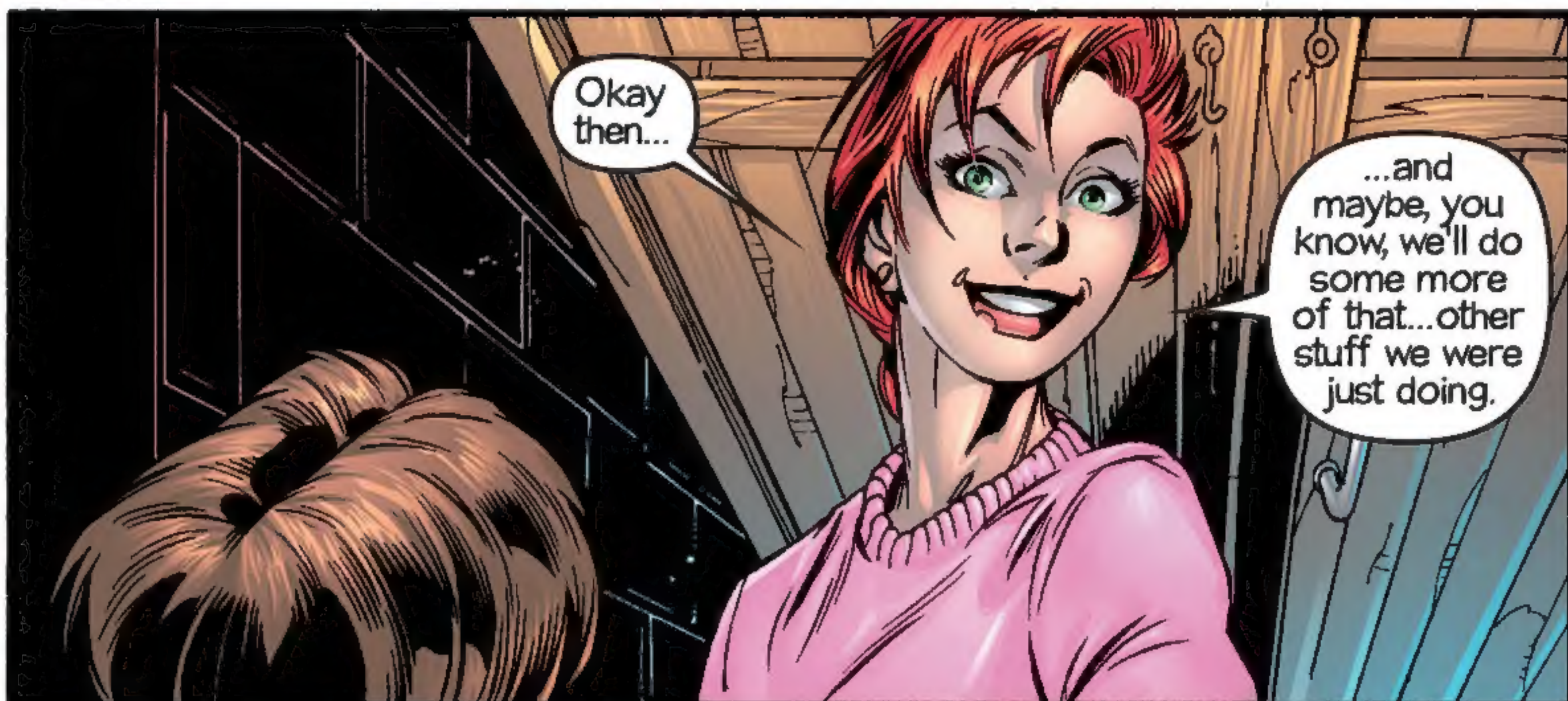
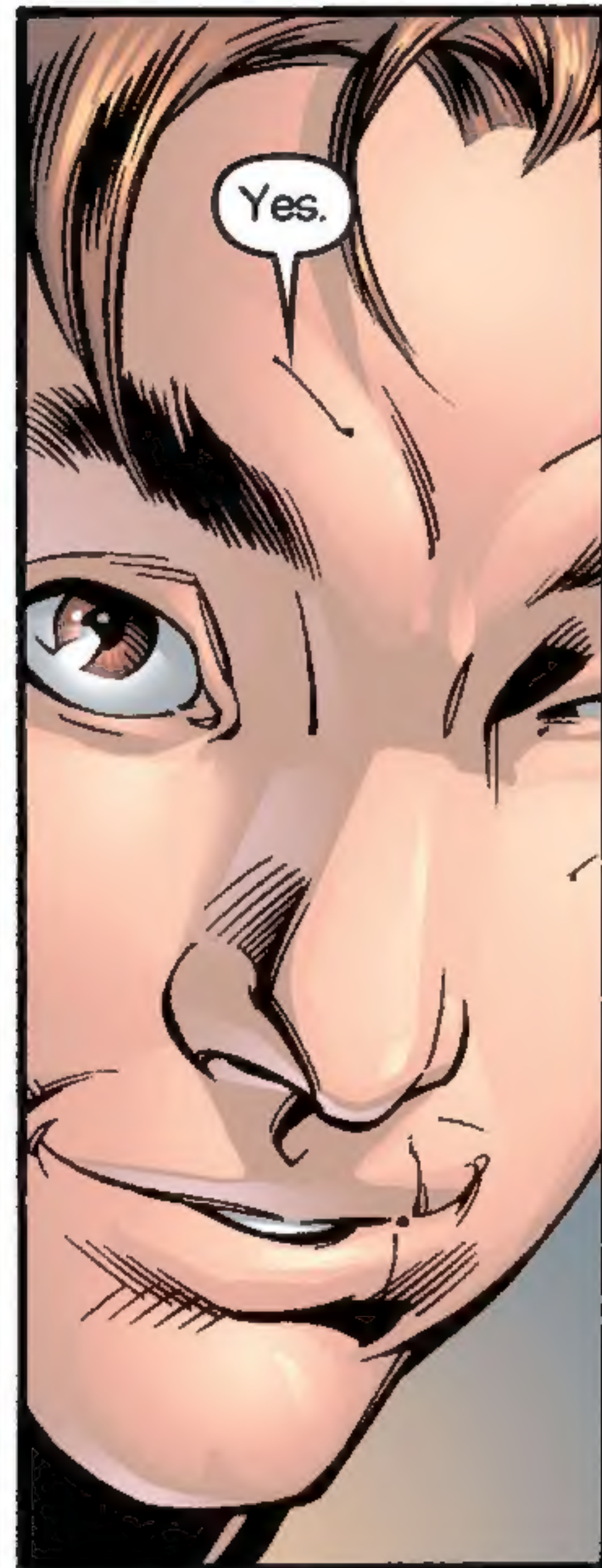
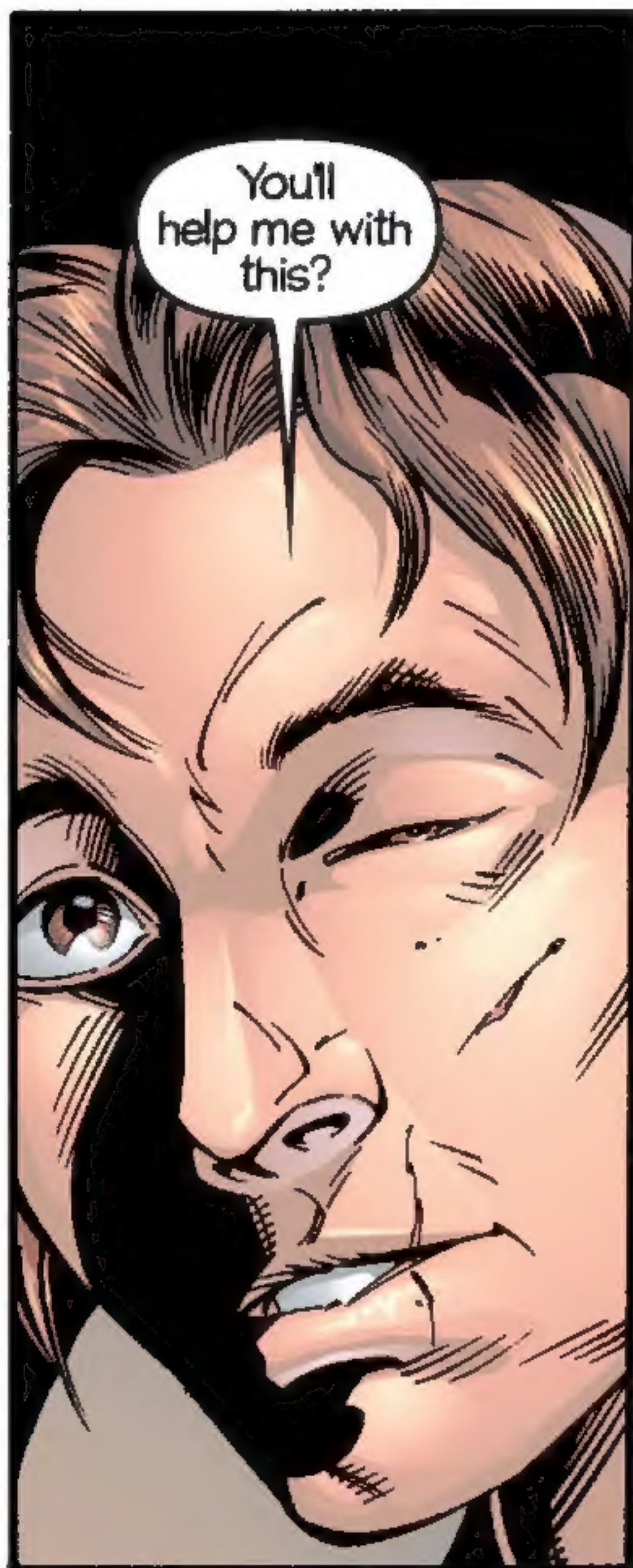
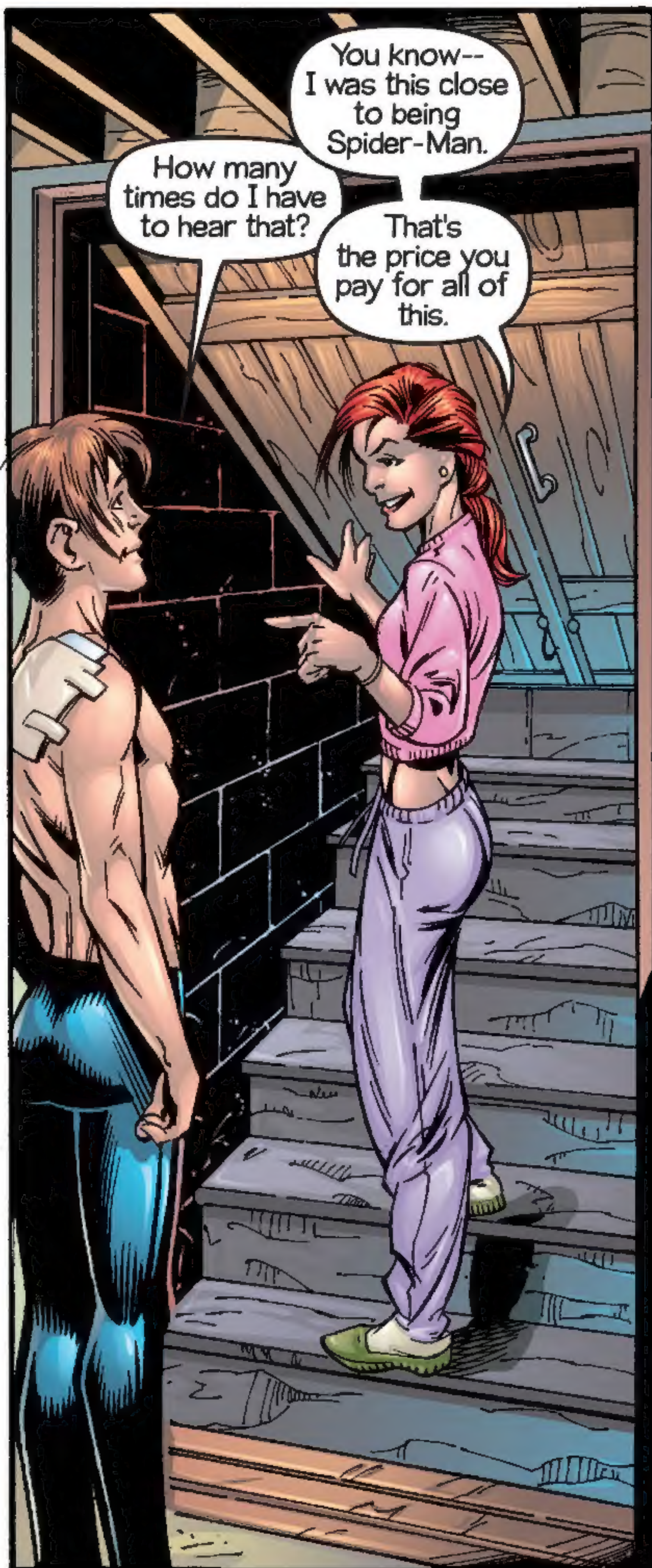
Never mind...

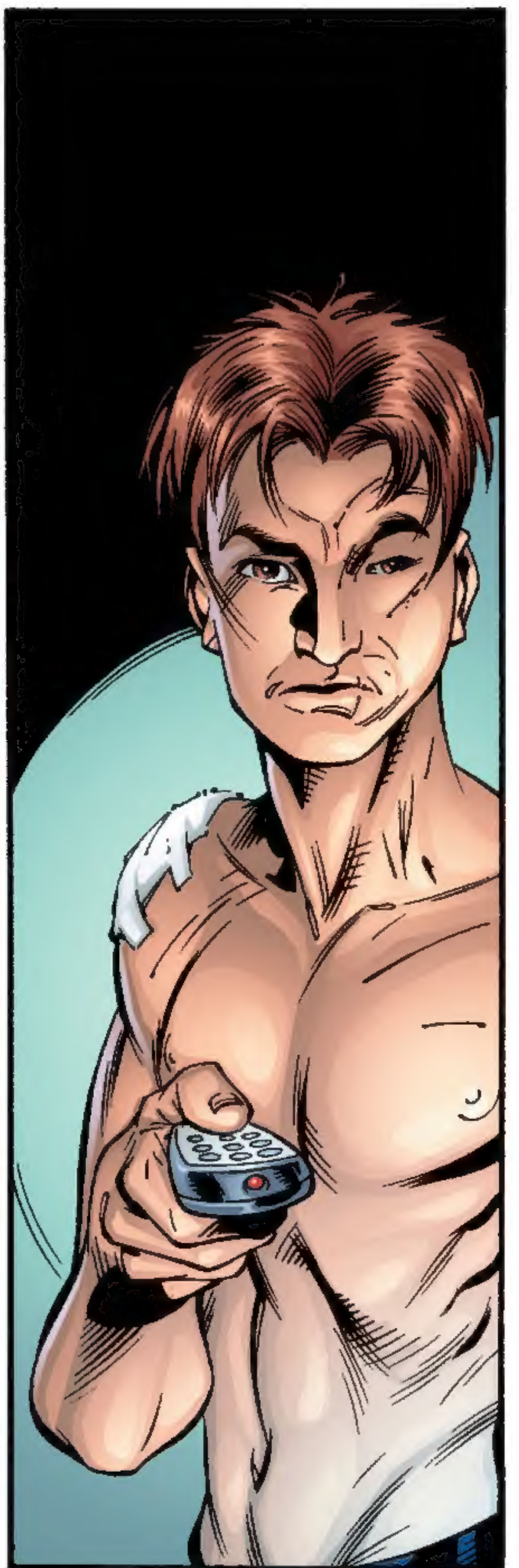
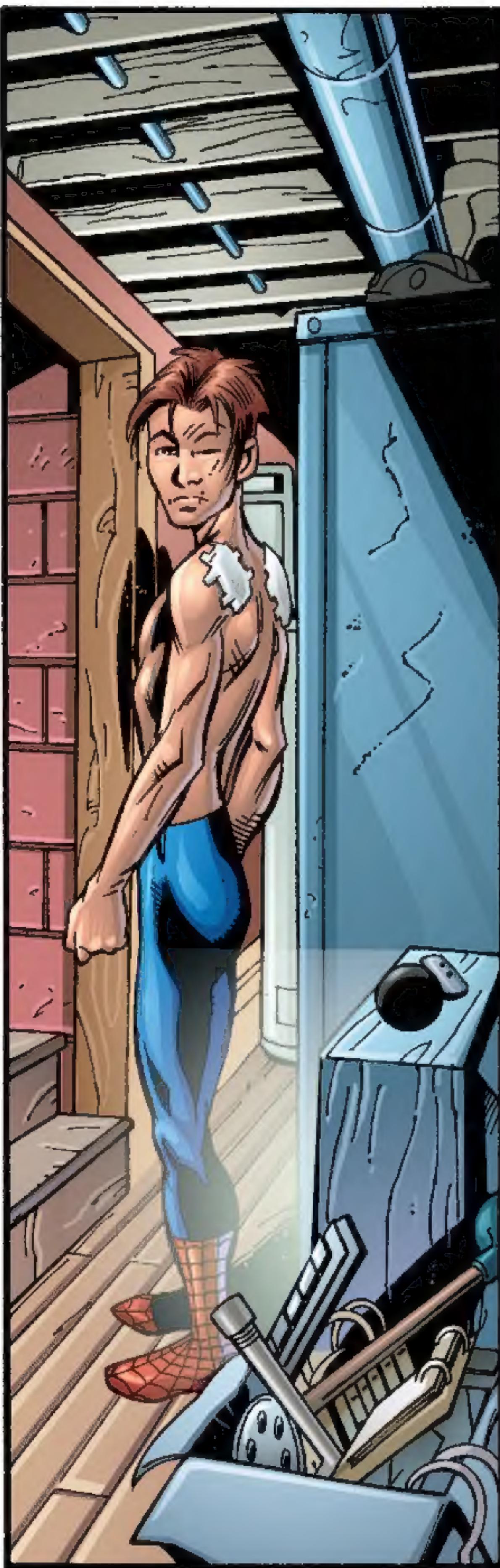


Have you seen Daredevil's costume?

He looks like a complete tool and nobody blames nuclear sabotage on him.







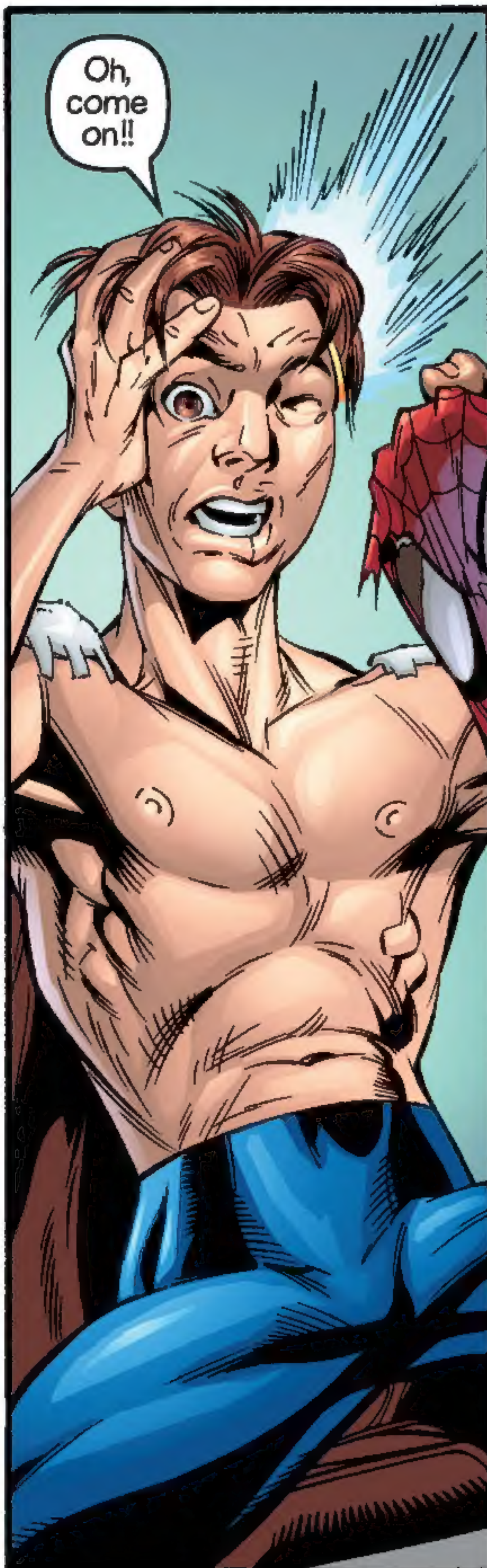
...police are asking for any information regarding the man known around the city as Spider-Man to contact them via the police web site.



And speaking of this Spider-Man-- I don't know about you, Jim--

--but let's hope this Kraven the Hunter teaches that little weasel that you don't mess with New Yorkers.

Hahahaha



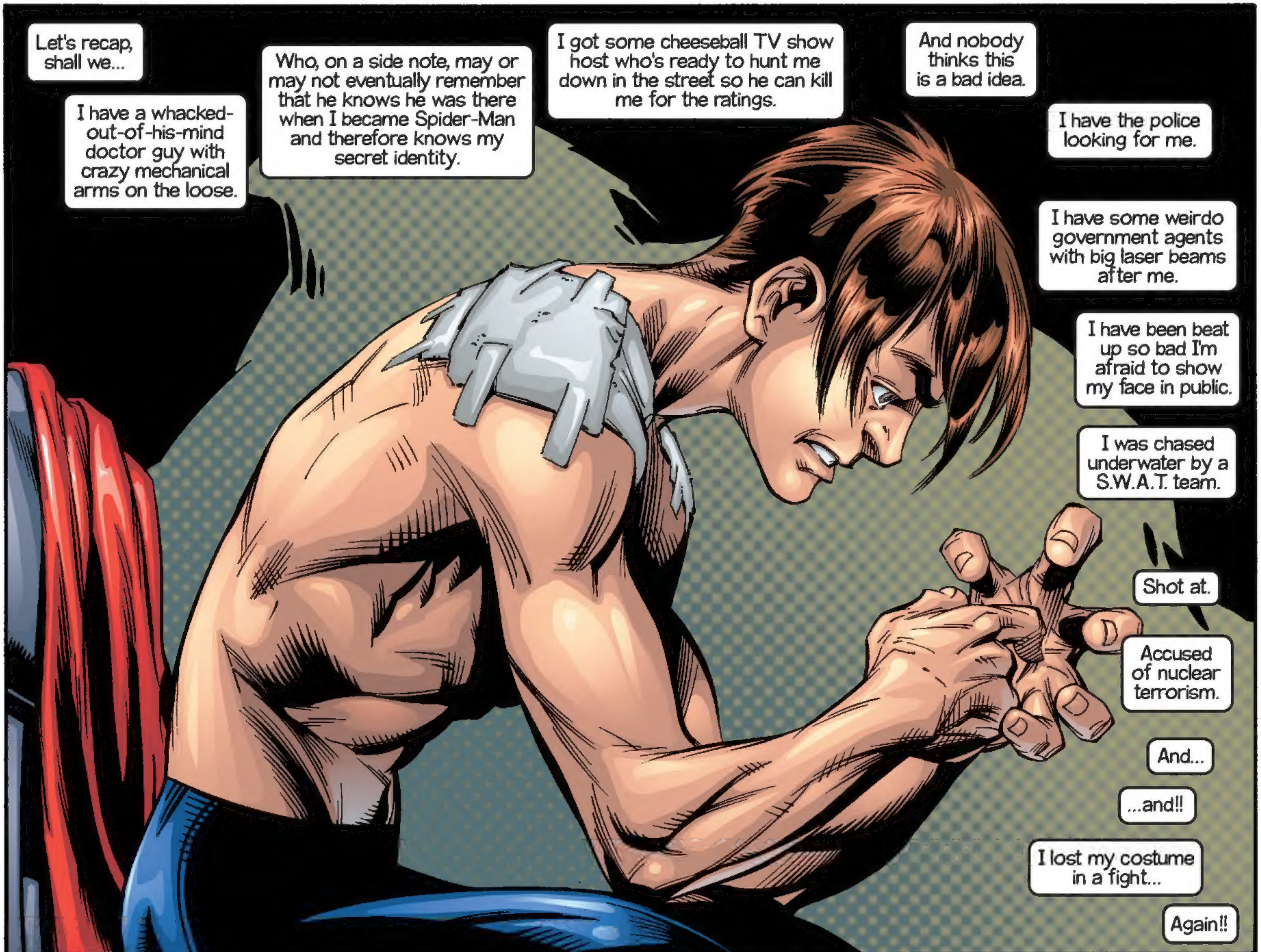
Oh, come on!!



You bet, Diane. Hahaha!

And after the break, we're going to meet a man who says the Hulk changed his life--

--but in a good way!



Let's recap,
shall we...

I have a whacked-
out-of-his-mind
doctor guy with
crazy mechanical
arms on the loose.

Who, on a side note, may or
may not eventually remember
that he knows he was there
when I became Spider-Man
and therefore knows my
secret identity.

I got some cheeseball TV show
host who's ready to hunt me
down in the street so he can kill
me for the ratings.

And nobody
thinks this
is a bad idea.

I have the police
looking for me.

I have some weirdo
government agents
with big laser beams
after me.

I have been beat
up so bad I'm
afraid to show
my face in public.

I was chased
underwater by a
S.W.A.T. team.

Shot at.

Accused
of nuclear
terrorism.

And...

...and!!

I lost my costume
in a fight...

Again!!



Maybe it's time to finally admit
I'm not really cut out for this gig.

Maybe I'm just too
young to be doing it.

Maybe it's time to hang
it up before something
really bad happens.

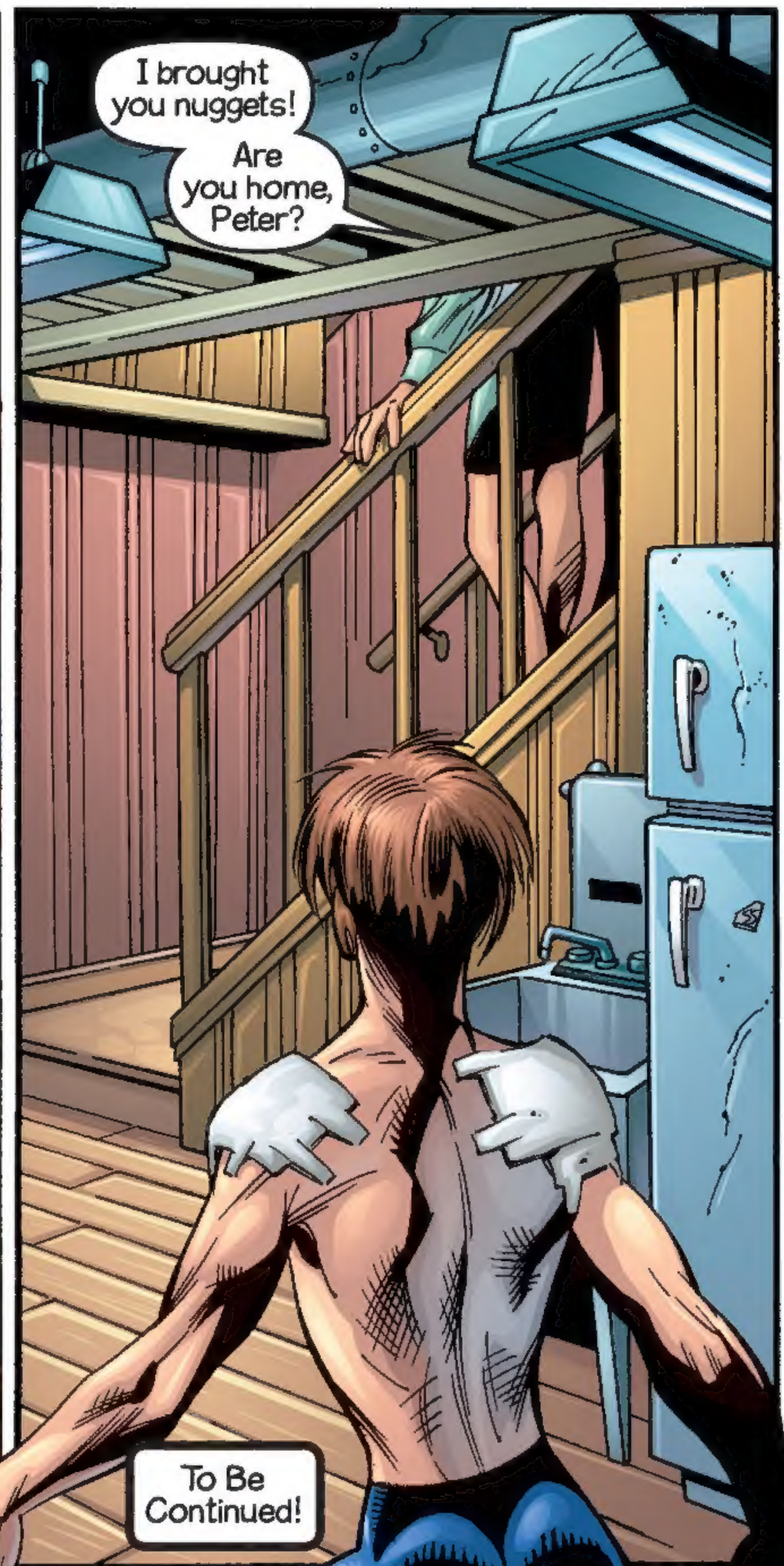
Before I do something
to hurt Mary Jane or--

--or scare
Aunt May...

Peter, I'm
home.



Are
you home,
honey?



I brought
you nuggets!

Are
you home,
Peter?

To Be
Continued!



SON OF

VULTURON